

Fowler's £20m shock package in war on Aids

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

A new health education authority is to be established within the National Health Service to develop the fight against Aids, and the Government is doubling to £20 million the sum it will spend over the next year on its campaign.

The measures, agreed by Lord Whitelaw's Cabinet committee on Aids, were announced to the Commons yesterday by Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Social Services, during an all-day debate in which he issued a stark warning that the crisis could reach the levels of other countries unless everyone protected themselves.

In its publicity campaign the Government is to employ shock tactics, particularly aimed at the young. Advertisements prepared for the youth press contain such warnings as: "Your next sexual partner could be that very special person - the one that gives you Aids, and 'Aids: how many people will get it for Christmas?"

Mr Fowler promised more money for clinics treating sexually transmitted diseases, more money for hospitals, particularly in London, to treat the disease and greater British involvement in international research efforts to combat Aids and to find a cure or vaccine.

Mr Fowler is to visit the World Health Organization and the United States and will talk with his counterparts in European countries as part of its campaigning will cover the whole of the Britain. The statutory arrangements which exist in Scotland through the Scottish health education group will be unaffected, although the two authorities will of course collaborate.

Mr Fowler told MPs that 30,000 people in Britain were infected with the Aids virus. The proportion of those who would eventually contract the disease and die was at present put at 25 to 30 per cent, but could be higher.

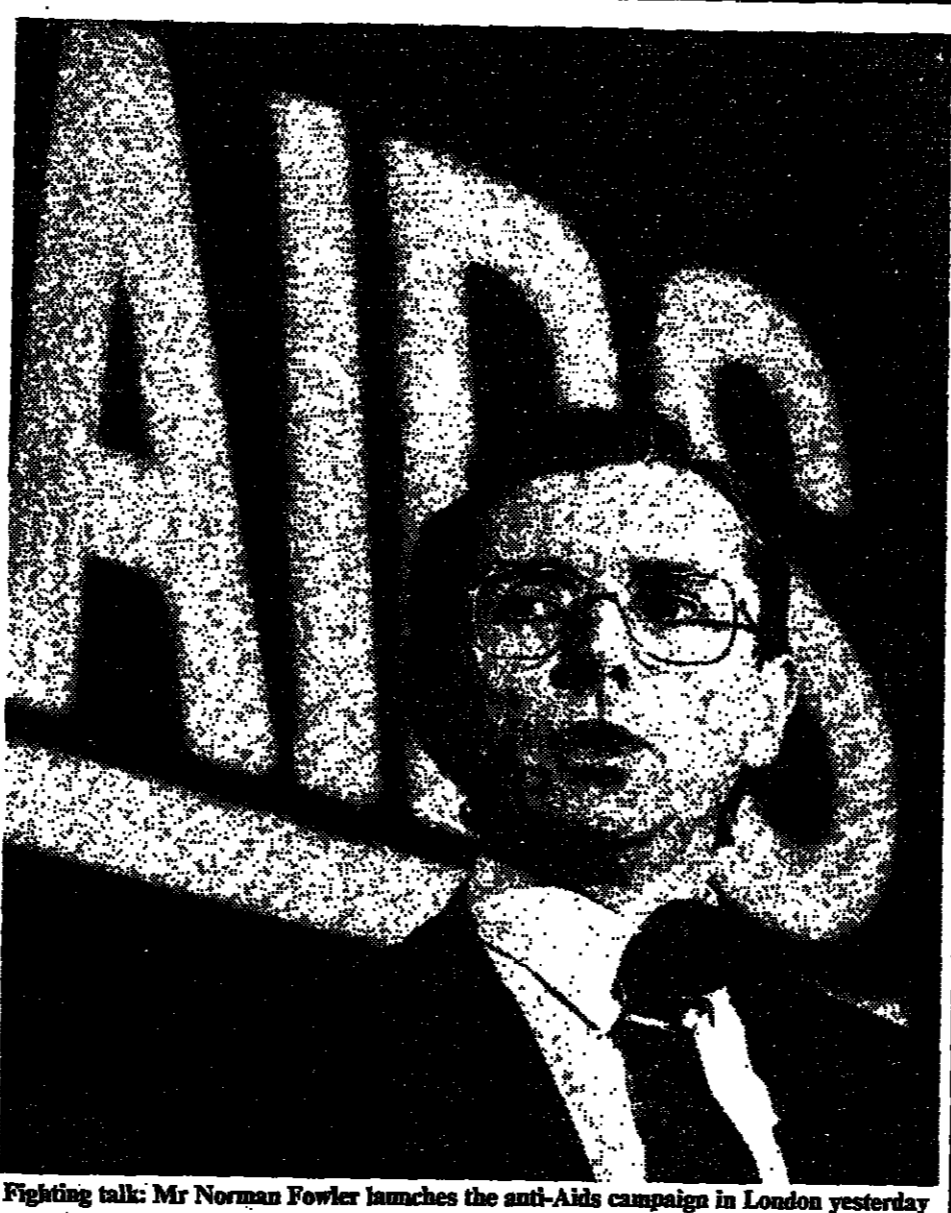
The Aids disease was fatal and incurable, he said. And the number of cases would inevitably increase whatever the Government did. But the spread of Aids could be prevented and the problem contained. The Government had an important role but the key to containing the spread ultimately rested with individuals own behaviour.

He said that clear explicit language must be used. "It may be that some will be offended. I regret that, but I have to say that I believe the greater danger is that the message does not get over."

He emphasized that unless everyone took action the disease would spread more widely into the heterosexual population. The message could not therefore be confined to particular groups. "That means striking a balance between warning everyone of the risks, while not causing unnecessary panic."

Ministers were not last night putting a figure on the new sums that will be spent on top of the £20 million campaign, but Mr Fowler said that

Continued on page 24, col 7



Fighting talk: Mr Norman Fowler launches the anti-Aids campaign in London yesterday

Portfolio Gold £12,000 to be won

Queues grow

Pound rallies

1,200 jobs go

Boesky ruling

Tailend boost

Tyson's target

Home News

Home News 2-5

Researchers find a third virus

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

New evidence has been found of a third virus which causes Aids, raising the possibility that tests used to safeguard blood supplies against the disease will have to be refined.

The virus was discovered in several west African patients suffering from Aids in Sweden by three researchers who won the Albert Lasker research award. The virus has not yet appeared in the United States.

Dr Robert Gallo, a senior researcher at the National Cancer Institute, Dr Luc Montagnier of the Pasteur Institute in Paris and Dr Myron Essex of the Harvard School of Public Health, suggested that more aids viruses might be found.

The new discovery has been labelled SBL (for state bacteriology laboratory) 6669 V 2. Most Aids cases come from one of the other two viruses so far identified, designated variously as HIV, HTLV 3 and LAV 1. A second virus, LAV 2, was found early this

year and has been discovered in at least six west African patients as well as in France, Belgium and West Germany. To complicate the picture, a fourth virus has also been found, but it apparently has not caused disease among about 300 people in whom it has been identified.

Dr Gallo said all the Aids and Aids-like viruses were under examination to determine their differences and similarities. On the evidence so far, some viruses seem to be highly infective while others are weak. Dr Gallo said some strains of the same type of Aids virus barely infected cells under laboratory conditions, while other strains "run to the cells."

"What makes one cause disease, another not, I don't know," he said. "The answer will come in 1987." The three scientists said an important concern was that the new viruses could escape detection by the existing Aids blood test.

so that up to 64 per cent of the shares, worth slightly less than £3.5 billion, will be available to the private investors.

Brady set to talk on other crimes

By Ian Smith Northern Correspondent

Ian Brady, the Moors murderer, yesterday broke his 22-year silence and said he is now willing to talk to senior police officers about other crimes.

His change of heart has resulted from letters he exchanged with Myra Hindley about the murders after both were given life sentences.

In correspondence between the two before their relationship ended, Brady made several references to the Moors murders and according to the solicitor Mr Benedict Birnberg, Brady is concerned about the public interpretation which might now be placed on the letters.

Five days ago Hindley pledged to co-operate in a new police search of the Saddleworth Moor which began on Thursday to find the graves of Keith Bennett, aged 12, and Pauline Read, aged 16.

Det Chief Supt Peter Topping, joint head of Greater Manchester CID, yesterday met senior Home Office staff to request that Hindley be taken from Cookham Wood jail in Rochester, Kent, to Saddleworth Moor.

Hindley has already identified from maps and photographs the spots where she thinks Keith and Pauline are buried, but detectives believe a personal visit to the scene will refresh her memory of events of 22 years ago.

Snow on Saddleworth Moor yesterday forced police to call off their painstaking search.

The point where they are now digging is less than 100 yards away from where the body of 10-year-old Lesley Anne Downey was unearthed in October 1965.

schild expects to see a 15p premium on the 50p partly-paid shares, which would mean a quick 30 per cent profit for investors.

The issue price drew immediate criticism. Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, said that after squandering the windfall of North Sea oil, Mrs Thatcher was "now having to sell off our industrial silver to pay the monthly bills."

The full prospectus will be published in The Times on Tuesday, November 25. Gas goes public, page 25

Shultz accused as bitter row grows over Iran deal

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

President Reagan's senior advisers were embroiled in bitter recriminations yesterday over the secret shipment of US arms to Iran as it became clear that far more weapons reached Tehran than the White House has previously admitted.

Mr Robert McFarlane, the former National Security Adviser who went to Iran secretly at Mr Reagan's request, accused Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, of knowing more about the operation than he has admitted. He insisted that he had kept Mr Shultz informed "repeatedly and often" about his clandestine contacts with Iran.

Mr Shultz, who opposed the operation, has maintained that he was only "sporadically" informed about the arms supplies and that he had "fragmentary information at best" about what was going on.

Mr McFarlane said that in retrospect it was a mistake to send arms to Iran. "As a senior adviser to the President I should have anticipated this potential outcome. The failure to do so represents a serious error in judgment for which I accept full responsibility."

Admiral John Poindexter, the National Security Adviser who ran the operation, gave details of weapons sent to Iran to selected congressmen.

The cache included 2,008 Tow anti-tank missiles and at least 235 Hawk anti-aircraft missiles. The revelation casts doubt on Mr Reagan's claim that the arms had no impact on the military balance between Iran and Iraq, and sharply contradicts the statement by Mr Donald Regan, the White House Chief of Staff, that the weapons "wouldn't be one day's ammunition supply."

Mr Jim Wright, Democratic Leader of the House of Representatives, said after meeting Admiral Poindexter that apart from the weapons sent by the US, a series of shipments were sent by Israel, which had been "given to understand it was carrying out the wishes of the United States."

Mr Wright said 1,000 Tow missiles were assembled in San Antonio last February and others were shipped separately.

"All were paid for by Iran - \$12 million plus," he said.

Heroin smuggling gang is convicted

bringing two kilograms of heroin into Heathrow airport.

£55,000 damages in 'Eye' libel suit

Mr Robert Maxwell was yesterday awarded £55,000 libel damages against the satirical magazine Private Eye which had claimed on two occasions in 1985 that he financed trips abroad by the Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, in the hope of ultimate ennoblement.

The damages included £50,000 "exemplary" damages, and costs were estimated at £200,000.

After a theatrical and flamboyant courtroom battle, the jury of six men and six women took five hours to find unanimously for the Czech-born former Labour MP for Buckingham, publisher of the Daily Mirror.

They awarded him £3,500 in respect of the first article, £1,500 in respect of the second, and a further £50,000 in punitive damages. Mr Justice Simon Brown granted Mr Maxwell an injunction banning Private Eye from further publishing the same or similar defamatory words about him.

Mr Maxwell, aged 63, said after the verdict: "I am delighted that I have been able, with the jury's help, to nail Private Eye for the lying organ that it is."

"We have exposed once and for all that they will publish anything for profit. They don't check their sources. They don't have the guts to apologise and when they finally do, they say in a court of law that some of their apologies are insincere."

The magazine had alleged, in articles written by Mr Christopher Sylvester, its political correspondent, that Mr Maxwell had acted as Mr Kinnock's "paymaster" and financed trips by the Labour leader and his staff to East Africa, Central America and Moscow, so that he might eventually be recommended for a peerage.

Mr Maxwell claimed, in evidence and through counsel, that the allegation was malicious, offensive, disgraceful, monstrous and outrageous.

Private Eye and its former editor Mr Richard Ingrams, who was not in court for the verdict yesterday, claimed it was true.

Mr Maxwell said he had twice rejected a peerage. To be Lord Bob of Cold Type was not his remaining dream, he added.

Mr Ingrams and Mr Sylvester spent many hours in the witness box and claimed their story came from "moles" in the Labour Party and at Mirror Group Newspapers, whom they refused to name.

The largest awards previously made against the magazine are thought to have been to Sir James Goldsmith, the industrialist, who won £30,000 criminal libel damages in 1976, and a further £85,000 libel damages in 1983. Brian James, page 24

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British Gas shares offered at 135p

British Gas shares go on sale next week at 135p each, valuing the company at £5.6 billion, Mr Peter Walker, the Energy Secretary, announced yesterday (Teresa Poole writes).

Payment will be in three instalments with 50p a share due on application, 45p in June next year and 40p in April 1988.

More than 7.5 million people have expressed interest in the privatization and all correct applications should receive an allocation.

Demand for MI5 statement rejected

By Michael Evans and Martin Fletcher

The Prime Minister is determined that the Government's case against the former MI5 officer Mr Peter Wright should not be abandoned, despite the increasingly embarrassing situation faced by Sir Robert Armstrong, the Cabinet Secretary, in the New South Wales Supreme Court in Sydney.

Yesterday both Mrs Thatcher and Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney-General, resisted Labour demands for a Commons statement on the Government's apparent double standards over Britain's intelligence services.

Paris meeting seals warmth of relations

Paris - No epoch-making agreements were reached at yesterday's summit meeting, but Mrs Thatcher and President Mitterrand expressed their pleasure at their similarity of view on a range of issues, including defence, the EEC and East-West relations (Diana Gaddes writes).

After "a beautiful and enjoyable day," Mrs Thatcher said they had seen much of each other this year.

As if to mark the warm relations, she said that the Prince and Princess of Wales would visit France in 1988. Spectre of terror, page 6

£200m heroin gang smashed in one operation

Heathrow transit lounge smugglers used girdles

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Reporter

In drug-smuggling the best ideas are sometimes the simplest. For more than two years Paul Dye and other members of a multi-million pound drugs ring convicted yesterday at the Central Criminal Court put that principle to best effect, smuggling between 40 and 60kg of heroin across the Atlantic.

One of the largest heroin organizations ever uncovered by British customs investigators took advantage of the transit passenger system to move heroin from Pakistan through Britain and the Continent into the United States, generating up to an estimated £200 million.

For the first time in the history of customs operations investigators captured an entire international drug organization ranging across three continents from the heroin supplier to the couriers, distributors and Dye, the entrepreneur behind the whole operation.

problems with the Pakistani authorities and cut out the labels because of the Arab ban on companies linked to Israel. The girdle would leave Islamabad around the waist of a courier booked to a destination which required a change of flights.

In the transit lounge at an airport such as Heathrow the courier would go into a toilet, remove the girdle and place it in a briefcase. He would sit next to a second courier in the lounge carrying an identical bag.

An exchange would take place and the second courier would wear the girdle for the second leg of the journey into the United States. The first courier would either continue to an innocent destination or return home after cancelling an apparent onward flight.

Transit passengers are not normally subject to customs examination. The system defeats the well-tried customs operation of screening passengers arriving from countries such as Pakistan known to produce illegal drugs.

But early last year customs officers mounted an investigation code-named 'Operation Fulmar' and which would smash more than 700 photographs of the ring in action.

The investigating unit, known as the Foxrot because of its call sign, was alerted when uniformed customs officers became suspicious about a number of people going to Pakistan.

In the first overt move of the operation customs were watching a suspected British member of the gang who led them to Dye.

Customs men discovered that within the space of two years Dye, described as a company director, had moved from a small flat in Ruislip to a Buckinghamshire house worth more than £150,000, paid for with drugs profits.

Customs believe that Dye, originally a small-time fraudster, started in drug dealing in 1980. Originally he built up his business running heroin from the Golden Triangle area of south-east Asia in an estimated 40 small runs from Malaysia.

By the time customs started work Dye had moved his business to the heroin source on the other side of Asia in Pakistan.

As customs kept watch last year they found other members of Dye's organization. The arrest at Heathrow did not halt operations which were re-routed through the Netherlands and West Germany.

Two more members of the gang, one of them John Hertridge, Dye's senior lieutenant, flew from Amsterdam to New York where they were intercepted. Heroin was found but the customs operation remained secret.

Customs saw Dye himself fly out to Pakistan and then to the United States, leading his trackers to a man called Wolfgang Cadogan, the main American wholesale distributor, based in Arizona.

Dye and the American flew into London where Cadogan was stopped by customs carrying a briefcase with \$134,000 and a small amount of cannabis. He paid a small fine for the drug and was allowed to leave.

Stricter police checks to beat couriers

Customs across the world are aware of the ways transit lounges at leading airports can be used by smugglers, such as the heroin ring convicted at the Central Criminal Court yesterday, to transfer contraband.

The lounges have not only been used for contraband such as drugs but also, it is suspected, by terrorists in the Middle East and some European countries trying to get arms on to aircraft for hijacks.

The weapons could be carried from a country with little airport security to a transit lounge in another country where the weapons could be transferred to terrorists.

Drug-smugglers, aware that flights from heroin-producing countries and the cocaine-growing areas of South America are subject to close customs scrutiny in the United States and Britain, use the lounges to transfer loads to couriers unlikely to be stopped.

Dye drove a Jaguar XJS and a Triumph, flew by Concorde and stayed in the best hotels abroad. He described himself as a secondhand car dealer and pop star promoter.

He also claimed during the trial to have been involved in funding a rock concert in Spain and said he had plans to market the "black box" equipment for helping drug addicts using several well-known rock and roll stars.

Cadogan was on the run but was traced through his yacht. Customs knew from papers found during his Heathrow arrest he planned to register the boat under the British flag through a company in Jersey.

From his hiding place in Florida he rang the company to check the arrangements unaware that a customs investigator was in the office. He was arrested.

Drug Enforcement Agency agents and British Customs went to search his home in Phoenix and one of the Americans answered the telephone.

The call came from a man called Anthony Havelock-Hudson who was a courier for money from drug sales.

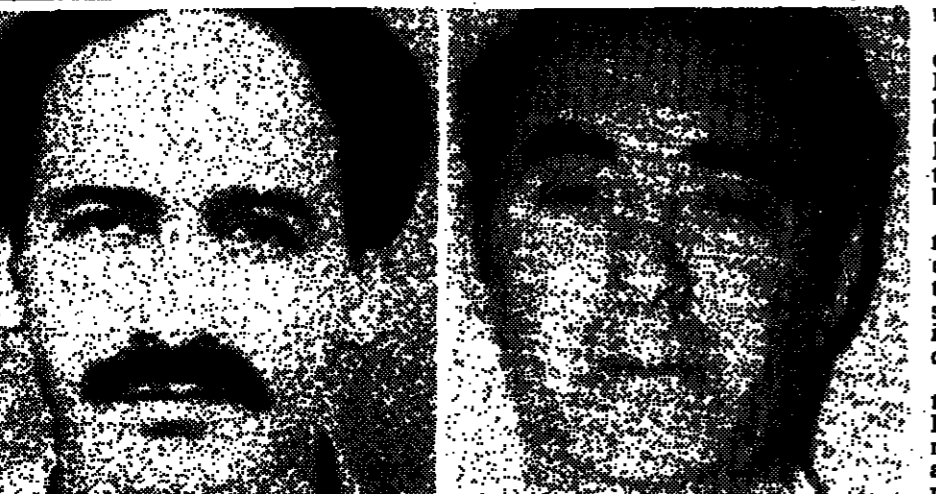
Unaware of the disasters overtaking the organization Havelock-Hudson fell into a trap. He was told two people from London were staying in Phoenix and the man who took his call would go with him to meet them.

Havelock-Hudson assumed the men he met, the British customs officers, were part of the organization and he described his work. Over a drink in the hotel Havelock-Hudson developed hiccups.

He went to the bathroom telling his companions "when I come back you chaps give me a fright". When he reappeared he was shown the men's identity cards.

He and John Hertridge are now awaiting sentence in the United States for drug offences.

Cadogan was given 20 years and Sylvia Millard, Hertridge's companion, got three years for smuggling. Chesters was also convicted.

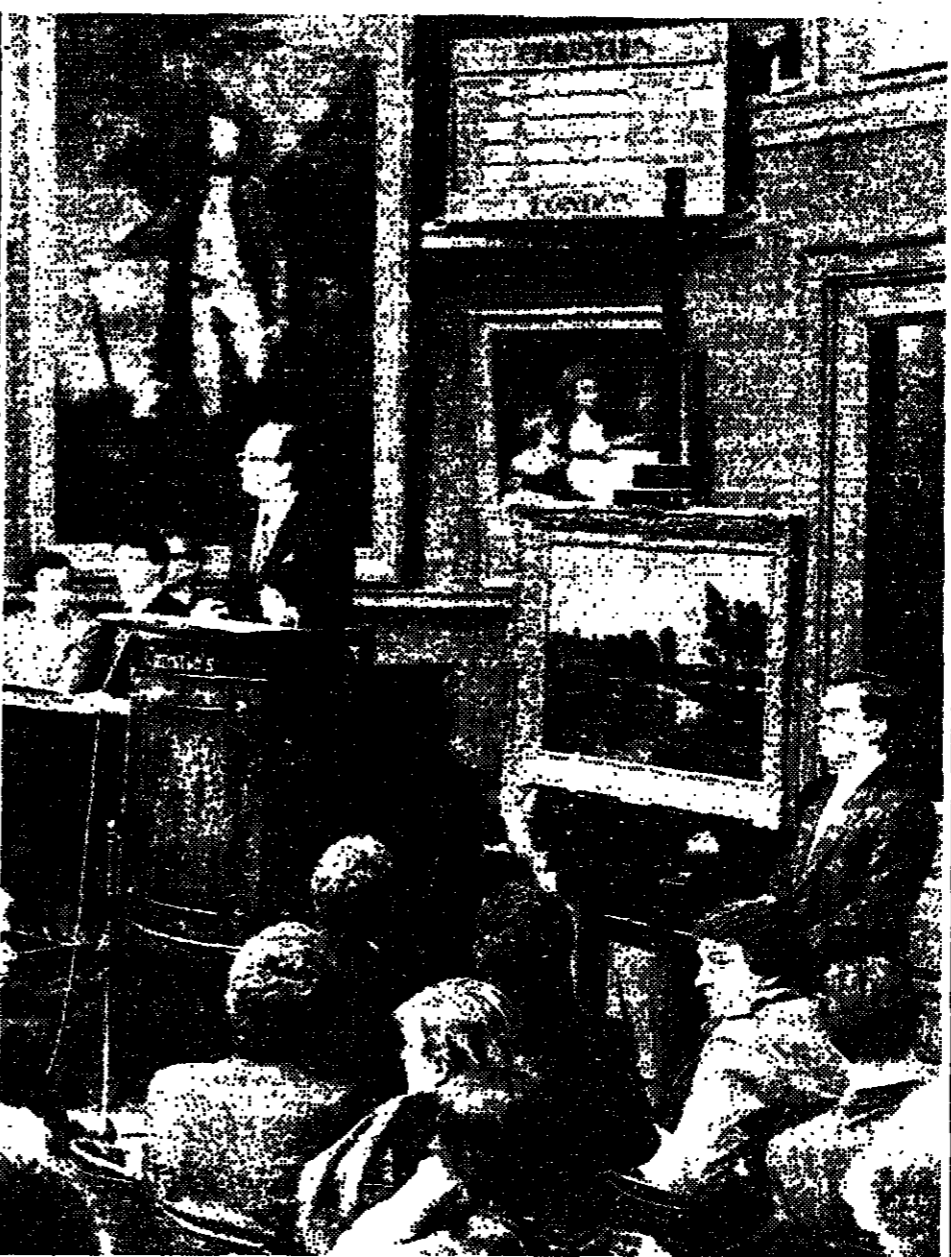


Paul Dye, ringleader of the intercontinental drug network trapped in Operation Fulmar. Cast of characters in the heroin plot: Mohammed Latif and John Hertridge (top left and right); and Clive Williamson and Derrick Gregory (above left and right).

Accomplice facing death penalty

Paul Dye, the head of the heroin ring convicted yesterday, is luckier than one of the lowly couriers he employed in his early days in the drug trade. Derrick Gregory, now aged 36, is awaiting trial in a Malaysian jail on a heroin smuggling charge which could cost him his life under the stringent local law.

Surrey, was used by Dye's early organization when he was using suppliers in south-east Asia for drugs to send to the United States. He was caught with more than 300 grams of heroin hidden in his underclothes and shoes. Fifteen grams of heroin is enough to warrant a Malaysian death penalty, by hanging, and Mr Gregory was caught with more than three times the total amount found on Barlow and Chambers, who were hanged earlier this year.



Building in progress for the Constable painting which was auctioned at Christie's in London yesterday for £2,400,000 (Photograph: Julian Herbert).

Fatal drug 'suitable sedative'

A medical expert told the jury in the trial of a GP accused of attempting to murder his patient that he would not criticise a doctor for using 150 mg of the drug phenobarbitone for sedation.

Mr Hubert Wood, Professor of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics at Sheffield University, was giving evidence on the ninth day of the trial of Dr John Carr, aged 59, of Branch Road, Leeds.

Dr Carr denies attempting to murder Mr Ronald Mawson, a terminal cancer patient, by deliberately injecting him with a massive overdose of phenobarbitone to let him die.

The doctor claims he made a tragic mistake and injected Mr Mawson with 1,000mg of the drug instead of 150mg.

Professor Wood said he was aware that in some circumstances during the terminal care of a patient, phenobarbitone would be suitable. The trial continues.

New riot gear for Manchester force

The Greater Manchester police force was given the go-ahead yesterday to spend more than £150,000 to arm its men more effectively in the event of street riots.

The area police authority rubber-stamped a request from Mr James Anderton, the Chief Constable, to finance the conversion of vehicles and extra protective gear.

Only one representative on the authority argued against the proposal. Mr Sam Darby of Moss Side, Greater Manchester, which was the focal point of riots in 1981, said: "It seems to me that being equipped like this could only lead to more provocative behaviour by police officers."

The authority agreed to the spending of £64,817 on additional protective clothing and equipment, and a £86,112 to convert nine vans into fully-protected personnel carriers. Extra equipment requested by Mr Anderton included shields, shin-guards, protective vests, and helmets. They are for the Tactical Aid Group.

Bus attacks to be filmed

A city's 110 double decker buses were fitted with closed-circuit television cameras yesterday, to film vandalism and attacks on drivers.

Film of incidents will be used by Derby as evidence in any future prosecutions.

It said that if the equipment was not provided as a matter of urgency, there was a likelihood that officers would have to withdraw from civil disturbances, leaving the public in danger and the possibility that parts of Greater Manchester would, at least for a time, become "no go areas".

Portfolio Gold Winner to buy new Beaujolais

A maritime arbitrator and a photogrammetrist are among the five winners of yesterday's Portfolio Gold prize of £4,000. Mr Bruce Harris, aged 42, the maritime arbitrator, from west London, has played the Portfolio Gold game since it started.

"I am very surprised because I am not designed to win at games of chance," he said. Mr Harris said that he would spend some of his winnings on Nonveau Beaujolais wine.

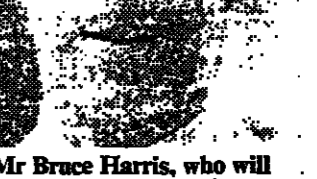
Mr Geoffrey Taylor, aged 49, the photogrammetrist, from St Alban's in Hertfordshire, said he was "very elated".

When asked how he intended spending the prize money, Mr Taylor said: "I'll have a nice Christmas".

Mr George Netley, aged 44, an accountant from east London, said he felt "disbeliever" when he realized that he was a winner. He will use his share of the prize money to buy new table tennis equipment.

The other winners are Mr Michael Ford, aged 56, a retired radio producer from Bromsgrove, Hereford and Worcester, and Mr Terry Slater, aged 44, a company director from west London.

Readers who wish to play the game can obtain a Portfolio Gold card by sending a stamped addressed envelope to: Portfolio Gold, The Times, PO Box 40, Blackburn, BB1 6AJ.



Mr Bruce Harris, who will turn winnings to wine

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MINOLTA

WORLD SUMMARY

Aquino military demands changes

Manila - General Fidel Ramos, the Philippine Armed Forces Chief of Staff, said yesterday that he has called on President Aquino to replace immediately "incompetent" members of her Cabinet...

Bata to quit S Africa

Ottawa - Bata, the multinational Canadian-based shoe manufacturer, has decided to pull out of South Africa...

Kremlin still cool

Bonn (Reuters) - West Germany appealed to Moscow for a return to normal relations yesterday as the Kremlin gave a new show of displeasure with Bonn...

Loan for Santiago

Washington - The Executive Board of the World Bank has approved a \$250 million (£177 million) loan to Chile despite strong objections by the United States and other countries...

Greek plant deal

Athens - The Soviet Union has agreed to buy the full output of an alumina plant to be built near Delphi, clearing the way for a project assailed by environmentalists...

Cyclists in protest

Delhi - Forty cyclists led by a Briton, Mr David Bergman, left here yesterday for Bhopal, 469 miles away, to protest against slow rehabilitation of people affected by the Union Carbide gas leak...

Abortion reform

Madrid - The Spanish Government approved the text of a decree yesterday which will extend authorization to carry out abortions to private, as well as State-run, medical institutions...

Terrorism haunts Thatcher meeting in France

The spectre of terrorism haunted yesterday's Anglo-French summit meeting in Paris. As Mrs Thatcher flew from London, President Mitterrand was attending the funeral of M Georges Besse, the late head of Renault...



Mrs Thatcher and President Mitterrand talking in the gardens of the Elysee Palace yesterday at the start of their meeting.

Panic as PLO fighters push out of Sidon refugee camp

A resurgent PLO fought off Lebanese Muslim militia attacks around the Ein Helwe Palestinian camp in Sidon yesterday, seizing a truckload of weapons from the Shia Amal militia...

'First lady' of Japan upsets status quo

Miss Takako Doi, of the Socialist Party, is the first woman leader of a major political party in Japan. "Women's aspirations, potential and capabilities have been oppressed. And we women are disgusted and angry, probably beyond any man's imagination," she said yesterday.

Two million private-sector jobs in Russia next year

The number of Soviet citizens legally employed in the embryonic private sector is expected to rise from the current official estimate of 100,000 to between two and three million as a result of the new law on individual enterprise which takes effect on May Day next year.

Hungary shelves leadership change

Budapest (Reuters) - Hungary, the East Bloc's most market-orientated country, is to draft a reform programme to revive its flagging economy but any changes in the Communist Party hierarchy will have to come later...

Foreign ministers view farm crisis EEC to sell wheat cheaply

As the EEC farming crisis worsens and budget over-spending on agriculture gets out of control, the European Commission yesterday confirmed that the EEC is to sell 375,000 tonnes of wheat cheaply to Algeria and Egypt. The subsidy is described as unusually generous.

Credibility is Reagan's new problem

What now? President Reagan, halting and nervous, has given his explanation of why he sent arms to Iran. Congress and the media remain unconvinced. The American public is overwhelmingly opposed.

Washington View

would be to bring real expertise to the decision-making process and to prevent the NSC's getting carried away with hare-brained schemes that had not first been submitted to rigorous assessment by those with the experience of international and security affairs to foresee the likely consequences.

Italy avoids Iran crisis

The menace of an Italian domestic political crisis over President Reagan's arms deal for Iran dissolved overnight. Signor Giuliano Amato, the Under-Secretary at the Prime Minister's Office, in a statement to the Rome Parliament yesterday, denied any official involvement in illicit arms supplies to Iran.

French support for 'single Europe'

Ratification of the European Single Act, which lays down conditions for a true common market in Europe, was approved by the French National Assembly in the early hours of yesterday morning, despite an unusual alliance between communists, die-hard Gaullists, and the National Front.

England in 'needle' chess draw

England, the second seeds, let slip an early 2-0 lead against the Olympic title favourites and tournament leaders, the Soviet Union, in yesterday's needle chess match here. It ended 2-2 to leave the Russians half a point ahead after six matches.

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, including "Washi" and "acks re".

Botha names new envoy to Washington and attacks 'revolting' US

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

South Africa announced yesterday the appointment of Dr Piet Koornhof, a former senior Cabinet minister responsible for black affairs, as its Ambassador to Washington. He is expected to take up the post, probably the toughest in South African diplomacy, in the New Year.

The appointment coincided with a scathing attack on the Reagan Administration by President Botha, who accused Washington of behaving in a way that was "revolting and unworthy of a nation such as the United States".

President Botha's remarks, unusually bitter even by South African standards, reflect the low ebb to which Pretoria's relations with Washington have sunk since the imposition by Congress of economic sanctions against this country in October.

The more recent decisions of General Motors, IBM and other American multi-national companies to seal or wind up their operations in South Africa have also helped to fuel the anti-American mood.

Opening a new medical centre in the Cape coastal town of George, Mr Botha said the United States had "declared an economic war

against us for the most absurd and sanctimonious reasons: in so doing, they have yet again taken up the sword against us on behalf of the Soviet Union".

He referred to what he termed the US Government's "insulting plan to send an official to South Africa, ostensibly to investigate health conditions in terms of its anti-South African legislation".

Last Monday, Pretoria announced that it had refused to grant a visa to an American aid official, Miss Christine Babcock, who was to make report on health conditions and malnutrition in South Africa's tribal homelands.

Article 502 of the Anti-Apartheid Act, which contains the sanctions measures adopted by Congress, calls for such a report to be submitted to the US legislature by December 1.

"The US Government should be under no illusion whatsoever that we will tolerate such blatant hostility and objectionable interference in our domestic affairs, by officially sanctioning an offensive act of this nature," President Botha said.

"If the US Government is really so deeply concerned about the health conditions in Africa, it will find some 50

states to the north of South Africa where it can conduct investigations if its conscience allows, and play a moralistic role where it is much more needed."

The announcement of Dr Koornhof's appointment was preceded by the arrival here of Washington's Ambassador, Mr Edward Perkins, the first black American to hold the post, which is seen as marking the end of the policy of "constructive engagement" and as heralding a return to the tense relations of the Carter era.

Now aged 61, Dr Koornhof was a Rhodes Scholar in the early 1950s, and wrote a doctoral thesis entitled *The Drift from the Reserves among the South African Bantu*, which presciently predicted the inevitability of black urbanization.

When he became a minister, however, Dr Koornhof joined in implementing policies which ignored the findings of his post-graduate research by trying to reverse the movement of blacks to the towns. In 1979, he created a stir in the US by saying that apartheid was the world knew it was "dead or dying". This earned him a reputation as a liberal which his performance in office never justified.



The Pope, escorted by a spear-wielding Fijian warrior, blessing a crowd in Suva yesterday, the latest stop on his six-nation Pacific tour. Earlier he sampled a potent local pepper-plant drink, kava, once described by missionaries as devil worship.

Russians force out 60,000 Afghans

By Nicholas Beeston

The number of Afghan refugees fleeing their country last month quadrupled as a result of a Soviet scorched-earth policy, a British relief worker, who has just returned from the region, said.

Mr Barry Langridge, the Christian Aid project officer for India and Pakistan, who visited Afghan refugee camps in Pakistan earlier this month, said that most families came from Afghanistan's northern provinces where they said

Soviet forces had systematically destroyed crops and other economic targets.

He said official figures for October showed that between 50,000 and 60,000 refugees, half of them children, had entered Pakistan's Baluchistan and North-West Frontier provinces.

He said the refugees spoke of a systematic policy by the Soviet occupation forces of destroying crops, thereby making it impossible for families to survive the winter.

The October refugee figures are four times greater than the previous month. An estimated three million Afghans live in refugee camps in Pakistan and a further 1.5 million in Iran.

ISLAMABAD: The resignation of President Babrak Karmal has removed a symbol of the 1979 Soviet intervention from the public eye days before the arrival of a United Nations mediation mission in Kabul (Reuter reports).

But Western diplomats in Islamabad do not see the move

as signalling any significant change in the government's policies at home or abroad. Mr Karmal's removal from the largely symbolic presidency had been expected almost daily.

The announcement came on Thursday night on Kabul Radio after meetings of the Central Committee of the (communist) People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA), and of the parliamentary-style Revolutionary Council.

Thousands flee island volcano eruption

From David Watts Tokyo

Thousands of people were being shuttled to the mainland last night after an erupting volcano threatened their lives on the island of Izu Oshima.

A rescue centre was set up in Tokyo 70 miles away and 13,000 people ordered off the island as two ferries and 29 boats of the Maritime Self-Defence Agency removed families. Lava flowed to within 100 yards of the island's main town, Motomachi, from Mount Mihara and smoke and lava rock were thrown 1,500 ft into the air. It was the worst eruption of the mountain since 1777.

Tokyo television stations cancelled normal programming to carry hours of live coverage of the eruption and rescue because the island was shaken by 70 tremors an hour before the main eruption.

Izu Oshima lies close to the fault line which might cause an earthquake in Tokyo. Responsible government agencies met in emergency session and disaster relief law will be applied.

The mountain had been erupting steadily for the past week but then there was a series of violent explosions and a fissure 200 yards wide opened up. Later another appeared and lava threatened the island's airport.

Austrian election

Socialists may be coalition juniors

From Richard Bassett, Vienna

Austrians go to the polls tomorrow in an election which is expected to end 16 years of predominantly socialist government.

It is doubtful, in the tradition of consensus politics in the country, whether it will change much else.

Latest unofficial polls give the opposition People's Party a lead of 2 per cent. But even if the Socialists lose their relative majority they may still find themselves in government, as the junior partner in a coalition with the People's Party.

The election will confront voters with a number of factors new to Austrian politics which

may upset normal predictions. It is the first in which the Freedom Party is engaged as a body with four years of experience in government, albeit as the junior partners of the Socialists.

It is also the first in which the People's Party's somewhat lacklustre leader, Herr Alois Mock, is pitted against a Socialist less charismatic than Dr Bruno Kreisky, who retired after the last general election in 1983.

Moreover the Greens, for the first time, though split into several factions, stand a fair chance of achieving their first representation in the Austrian Parliament.

The irony is that after this summer's change of Cabinet, which replaced the unfortunate Dr Fred Sinowatz with Dr Franz Vranitzky, the Austrian Cabinet is looking more impressive than it has done for years.

Dr Vranitzky and Dr Peter Jankowitsch, his Foreign Minister, have in a matter of months instilled a new air of professionalism into a Government which under Dr Sinowatz had become an easy source of ridicule.

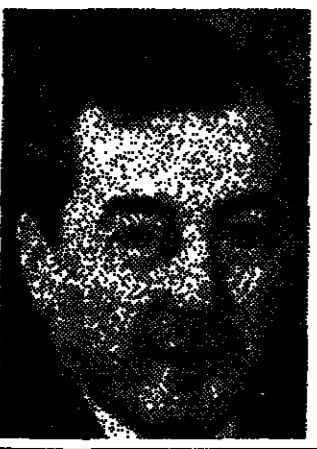
This is, however, unlikely to impress voters who, though unwilling to ask for details of any party's programme, nonetheless feel that there is some vague need for change. Quite what it will involve and who is capable of carrying it out remain for most Austrians nebulous concepts.

In a democracy as young as Austria's, where people are used to being administered rather than governed, the voting tomorrow is only the opening salvo in the battle for the composition of the next Cabinet.

Ultimately the character of the next Government will be decided by the party committees who, once the results are announced, will go into private debate next week on the details of any coalition deal.



The two senior poll rivals: Dr Franz Vranitzky, above, and Herr Alois Mock.



Damascus envoy flees prosecutor

Ankara (Reuter) - Mr Muhammad Darwiche Baladi, the second secretary at the Syrian Embassy, left Turkey before a prosecutor could accuse him of involvement in the killing of a Jordanian diplomat, Foreign Ministry officials said yesterday.

A State Security Court prosecutor said Mr Baladi would be one of nine people indicted over the killing of Mr Ziyad al-Saifi, the first secretary at the Jordanian Embassy, last year.

Six of the accused are in custody - four Palestinian students, a Turk of Iranian origin and a Jordanian Embassy translator, Mr Adnan Musa Suleiman Ameri. Press reports say that he named Syria as having been involved in the killing.

The indictment is the first official accusation in Turkey of Syrian involvement in Middle East violence, but diplomats say that Ankara is unlikely to take further action against Damascus.

Diplomatic pressure denied: A Foreign Ministry spokesman said that Mr Baladi, who is in his early 40s, might have been recalled by the Syrian Government and that Turkey had not exerted diplomatic pressure for him to leave (Rasit Gurdilic writes).

Brain-sale scientist imprisoned

From Roger Boyes East Europe Correspondent

The Hungarian doctor who masterminded a bizarre East-West corruption scandal in which 5,000 human brains were sold illegally to a Western pharmaceutical company has been jailed for three years and eight months, according to official press reports.

The prosecutor in the Szeged provincial court has appealed against the sentence, declaring that the erstwhile deputy head of the local medical academy, Professor Ferenc Laszlo, should also be stripped of his doctor's title.

The case has shocked Hungarians, who regard doctors with huge respect.

Professor Laszlo struck a deal to supply pituitary glands stolen from corpses delivered to the Szeged academy anatomy department to an Italian company and paid laboratory workers to deliver several brains a week.

Over 10 years he managed to dispose of some 5,000 brains, netting at least four million forints (£60,000) which he said had benefited the academy with increased supplies. His Italian customers also covered his costs during trips abroad.

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Whitehall accused over Pincher book

Judge's suspicions stun hearing

From Stephen Taylor Sydney

THE MI5 CASE

Mr Justice Powell stunned the MI5 book hearing here yesterday by indicating that he suspected that the British Government had secretly authorized a book with the same theme as that by Peter Wright which it is trying to suppress.

The Judge said in no uncertain terms that he was troubled about the explanation advanced in the witness box over the past four days by Sir Robert Armstrong, the Cabinet Secretary, about why there was no attempt to stop publication of *Their Trade is Treachery*. Chapman Pincher's account of the investigation of Sir Roger Hollis.

The Judge's statement in the New South Wales Supreme Court was accompanied by a clear direction that he believed that the British side had the responsibility to remove any misunderstanding on his part.

During evidence on the decision by the Attorney-General, Sir Michael Havers — who has been described by the defence side as one of Mr Pincher's "better contacts" — not to try to stop the highly-sensitive disclosures made in the book, the Judge said: "I am puzzled why someone did not just hot foot it up the Strand with an *ex-parte* injunction and an Anthon Piller order (a sweeping seizure order to impound every copy of the book and the manuscript). I find it very difficult at the moment to think of a reason why it wasn't done."

"If there were no legitimate reasons why it was not done, no legal reason why it could not be done, then I would find myself pushed further and further towards the view that

the Government knew exactly what was being done and it wasn't going to take a step to stop it.

"And if that is so, it is no great step towards saying the Government authorized it to be published."

On Thursday the court went into closed session for more than an hour after Sir Robert declined to answer in public a suggestion that Lord Victor Rothschild, a senior Conservative Party adviser, had procured publication of the Pincher book.

The Judge said yesterday it had been shown in evidence that MI5 had proofs of the book six weeks before publication and gave them to the Government.

"I do not see how they could have failed (to get an *ex-parte* injunction) — even a lowly colonial judge like myself — which I shall remain after this case," he added to laughter.

To Mr Theo Simos, QC, for the Government, who said he trusted that the Judge would keep an open mind, Mr Justice Powell said: "We have a long way to go in this case. I

have a habit, whether fortunate or not, I don't know when I am troubled and puzzled I tell those involved so they have an adequate opportunity of removing any error or misconception I may be making."

This development emerged from cross-examination of Sir Robert by Mr Malcolm Turnbull, for Mr Wright, who has been probing for four days on the Cabinet Secretary's sworn answer to written interrogatory No 150 on why no action had been taken to restrain publication of *Their Trade is Treachery*.

The written answer, signed by Sir Robert on October 6, was: "The plaintiff was advised that it had no basis to restrain the publication of the book."

Yesterday Mr Turnbull said that two joint explanations had been offered by Sir Robert for Sir Michael's decision: that to stop the book the Government would have needed to know the source who had leaked highly-classified material to Mr Pincher (and that it did not); and that the

Government was concerned to protect the source who had given the pre-publication proofs to MI5.

The first explanation did not apply, Mr Turnbull said, because the Government had stopped the Nigel West book, *A Matter of Trust*, when, by Sir Robert's own admission, he was not sure that the main source had been identified.

The second explanation, Mr Turnbull said, did not stand up because numerous people could have seen the proofs. It was "utter humbug" to suggest that to disclose that the Government had the book could have identified the source.

Sir Robert said he had believed it was preferable that the Pincher book not be published and he would have assumed there was a legal basis for action to suppress it.

Mr Turnbull put it to Sir Robert that he had been surprised when he was advised that Sir Michael had decided against an injunction.

Sir Robert said: "I was resigned, I was not surprised."

He did not argue questions of law with the Attorney-General. Mr Turnbull then passed a piece of paper to Sir Robert, suggesting that it bore

the name of the source who had provided MI5 with the Pincher book proofs.

"I have no reason to think so," Sir Robert replied.

It was this exchange that prompted Mr Justice Powell's statement, and after it Mr Turnbull resumed his line of argument.

"The evidence Sir Robert has given concerning the Attorney-General's advice is palpably false," he said. That was unless "the Attorney-General was surrounded by legal incompetence, which I am sure is not the case."

He added: "Why was Sir Robert giving false evidence in a matter so important as this? The natural explanation could be that he and the Government has something to hide."

Why, he asked again, was the Government seeking to suppress the Wright book when its main allegation had been reported widely. The central claim, that Sir Roger Hollis was a Soviet double agent, was hardly novel, was it?

Sir Robert said that, in addition to Mr Wright's breach of his duty of confidentiality, the book was a "comprehensive" account of his service between 1955 and 1956.

Mr Turnbull disputed his definition of comprehensive. "It says nothing about his service in Northern Ireland, does it?"

Sir Robert: I believe not.

Mr Turnbull: It was an important part of his life in the service, wasn't it?

Sir Robert: I believe so.

Mr Turnbull: Mr Wright has gone to great pains, to ensure that there is nothing in his book to affect current operations of MI5.

Sir Robert will start his fifth day in the witness box after the weekend.

Family tribute at Kennedy grave



On the anniversary of the 1963 assassination of President Kennedy, brother, Edward helps his sister-in-law, Mrs Ethel Kennedy, to her feet, while two of her daughters Kerry, right, and Rory kneel before the flame of remembrance on the President's grave in Arlington.

Economic optimism and civil liberties return to Uruguay

From Eduardo Cué, Montevideo

The streets of the Uruguayan capital have come alive after more than a decade of harsh military rule.

From the Plaza de la Libertad to the Plaza de la Independencia along the city's main thoroughfare, the pavements and restaurants are crowded with people enjoying the River Plate spring.

Many of the books and magazines they buy and the films they watch were banned under the 1973-1985 dictatorship, which put an end to one of the longest periods of democratic rule in recent Latin American history. In the 19 months since the military relinquished power, the country's three million people have returned to their old democratic habits.

In practice, if not always in law, the civil liberties in force during the 29 years of democracy preceding the military coup have been restored by the Government of President Julio María Sanguinetti.

In foreign affairs there is broad consensus for a policy of non-alignment. Uruguay's image abroad has been improved not only by the return to democratic rule but also by the international prestige of its Foreign Minister, Señor Enrique Iglesias, the chairman of the Gatt talks and a leading candidate to become Unesco's next secretary-general.

"The future is conceived here as a betterment of the past before the military dictatorship," Señor Jose Maria del Rey, a lawyer and university professor, said.

A key reason for the renewed optimism is the upturn in the economy. The combined drop in world oil prices and interest rates and a sharp rise in exports are expected to translate into a 2 per cent GDP growth rate this year.

While modest, it compares favourably with last year's zero growth and is a significant improvement over the 2.4 per cent negative growth rate registered in 1984.

With real wages rising and a high but declining 11 per cent unemployment rate, inflation

is the only dark factor in the economy. The price index is expected to rise by 70 per cent this year, about 15 per cent higher than in 1984. "The basic problem," says a Western diplomat, "is how to maintain the standard of living and the social services on a limited economic base and in a market that is too small to sustain industry."

Uruguay is an agricultural country which relies on exports of wool, meat, leather and dairy products for its foreign exchange revenue. Observers here say that its future growth will depend largely on how well it can develop its role as a provider of goods and services to Argentina.

The Frente Amplio and National parties, which together hold a majority in both Houses of Congress, also argue that the military continues to exercise undue influence over political life.

"The dictatorship created serious scars in the political, economic and social structure of the country. The 19 months of democracy have not brought about fundamental changes," says Señor José D'Elia, president of the PIT-CNT, Uruguay's sole labour organization, which groups together 47 unions.

"We have not been given back the social benefits that were taken away by the dictatorship," he says, pointing out that pension, unemployment and health insurance benefits sharply reduced during the military regime have not been restored.

Señor D'Elia believes that the country should stop interest payments on the foreign debt and that the military and police budgets should be reduced sharply.

The military budget has not been reduced significantly, as a way of keeping the armed forces calm. Some 30,000 men remain in uniform, only slightly fewer than in Argentina which has a population 10 times greater. The defence and interior ministries account for 40 per cent of total public spending.

But the efforts to appease the military have failed because the Government has not been able to convince Congress that it should grant former military commanders an unconditional amnesty for human rights violations during the dictatorship.

The controversy has paralyzed political life and it now appears likely that Congress will be dissolved and early legislative elections held in an effort to break the deadlock.

"Apart from the issue of amnesty, Uruguay is sailing in fairly smooth waters at the moment and is trying desperately to be an example of democracy in Latin America."

President Sanguinetti: civil liberties restored.



President Sanguinetti: civil liberties restored.

tina and Brazil, its two huge neighbours to the west and north.

Brazil, for example, has made large purchases of meat in Uruguay this year, a trend that is expected to continue. The free exchange rate has turned Montevideo into a regional banking centre, and its large and relatively well-educated middle class is one of its main assets.

The two main opposition parties and the labour movement attribute the economic upturn to external factors and say that government policies have failed to spur internal demand and increase production.

Guilty plea on £5.5m drug deal

Sydney (Reuters) — Bruce Cornwell and Barry Bull pleaded guilty yesterday to smuggling two tons of cannabis worth \$AUS 12 million (£5.5 million) into Australia from Thailand.

Cornwell was deported from Britain and Bull from Austria earlier this year to face 50 charges connected with heroin and cannabis dealing.

Fossil found

Wellington (Reuters) — The discovery in New Zealand of a 50-million-year-old penguin fossil, possibly the oldest in the world, may help determine the origin of the flightless species.

Snow rescue

Delhi (Reuters) — More than 500 people trapped on a snowbound mountain road in Kashmir province have been rescued by air force helicopters and troops.

Temple fire

Peking (AFP) — The Temple of Enlightenment, which dates back to the 10th century, has been badly damaged by a fire caused by a caretaker's negligence.

Death catch

Peking (AFP) — Six people were killed and 20 were injured when a floating mine taken aboard a fishing boat on China's south-west coast exploded, sinking six boats and damaging 100 houses.

Milk ban

Rio de Janeiro (Reuters) — The São Paulo state has banned imports of milk powder from Europe until health officials carry out radiation tests on it, a state health secretariat official said.

Ceausescu goes his own way with poll

Romania votes on troops cut

By Roger Boyes, East Europe Correspondent

Romania this weekend stages an unusual referendum to muster support for a government proposal to cut by 5 per cent the country's troop levels, and armaments and defence spending.

In pursuit of a magical 99.9 per cent turnout, party activists have been laying on buses for villagers in remote areas and rearranging shifts in enterprises such as coal mines and oil refineries which work on Sunday.

University students will report to colleges and go on to the ballot box. Hospitals will have special voting facilities, so that the sick need not lose an opportunity to approve the cuts suggested by President Ceausescu.

The unilateral offer, as with others in the past, is being described in the official press as historic. The idea was floated by Mr Ceausescu in September, partly to demonstrate that he is still capable of striking independent postures within the Soviet bloc.

When leaders of the Warsaw Pact nations met in Budapest in June they agreed

on a package of proposals to the West — embracing nuclear, chemical and conventional cuts — and suggested a phased 25 per cent reduction in defence spending until 1990.

This was in line with long-standing Romanian initiatives. But Mr Ceausescu wanted the Pact nations to go further, and made known that he wanted a unilateral gesture. He was overruled, and decided to go it alone.

The use of the referendum is interesting. Although referenda have been used occasionally in eastern Europe, especially after the war, there is no provision for them in the Romanian Constitution.

Romanian reference works, indeed, describe plebiscites as "suspicious procedure manipulated by capitalist governments". But there are three reasons for his move.

First, Mr Ceausescu wants to show that Romania's relatively independent stand from Moscow has national backing. This enhances his importance, attracts Western applause — and perhaps

makes Moscow think twice before encouraging internal rivals.

Second, the referendum is intended to outflank the military, which is highly likely to be unhappy about the proposed cuts. Although the defence budget has been cut several times before — the 1986 budget is already lower than that of 1985 — the proposals also envisage cuts in both personnel and arms.

The Romanian general staff would be content with a smaller army if more funds were made available for modernization, but this is not the case and the officers are feeling the squeeze.

If, as expected, the referendum result supports Mr Ceausescu almost 100 per cent, he will be able to ignore any rumblings in the army.

Finally, the defence cuts should free more money and manpower for the ailing economy. This view is shared by the Hungarians, who have argued for a more effective use of defence spending rather than constant expansion.

Pol Pot's 'illness' a mystery

From Neil Kelly Bangkok

The whereabouts of Pol Pot, the Khmer Rouge leader blamed for the slaughter of large numbers of Cambodians during his years in power, is the subject of increasing speculation in South-East Asia.

In recent days he has been reported seriously ill in China, in hospital in Bangkok and giving lectures on military affairs in Cambodia.

Reports quoting diplomatic sources that he is ill in China, with malaria, diabetes and high blood pressure, have been denied by Mr Mak Ben, an official of the anti-Vietnamese coalition government in Cambodia.

He said Pol Pot was conducting classes for military commanders in the mountains of south-west Cambodia.

A senior Thai official on the Cambodian border, however, said he understood that Pol Pot, who is 61, went to hospital in Bangkok last month. Thai authorities have made no comment.

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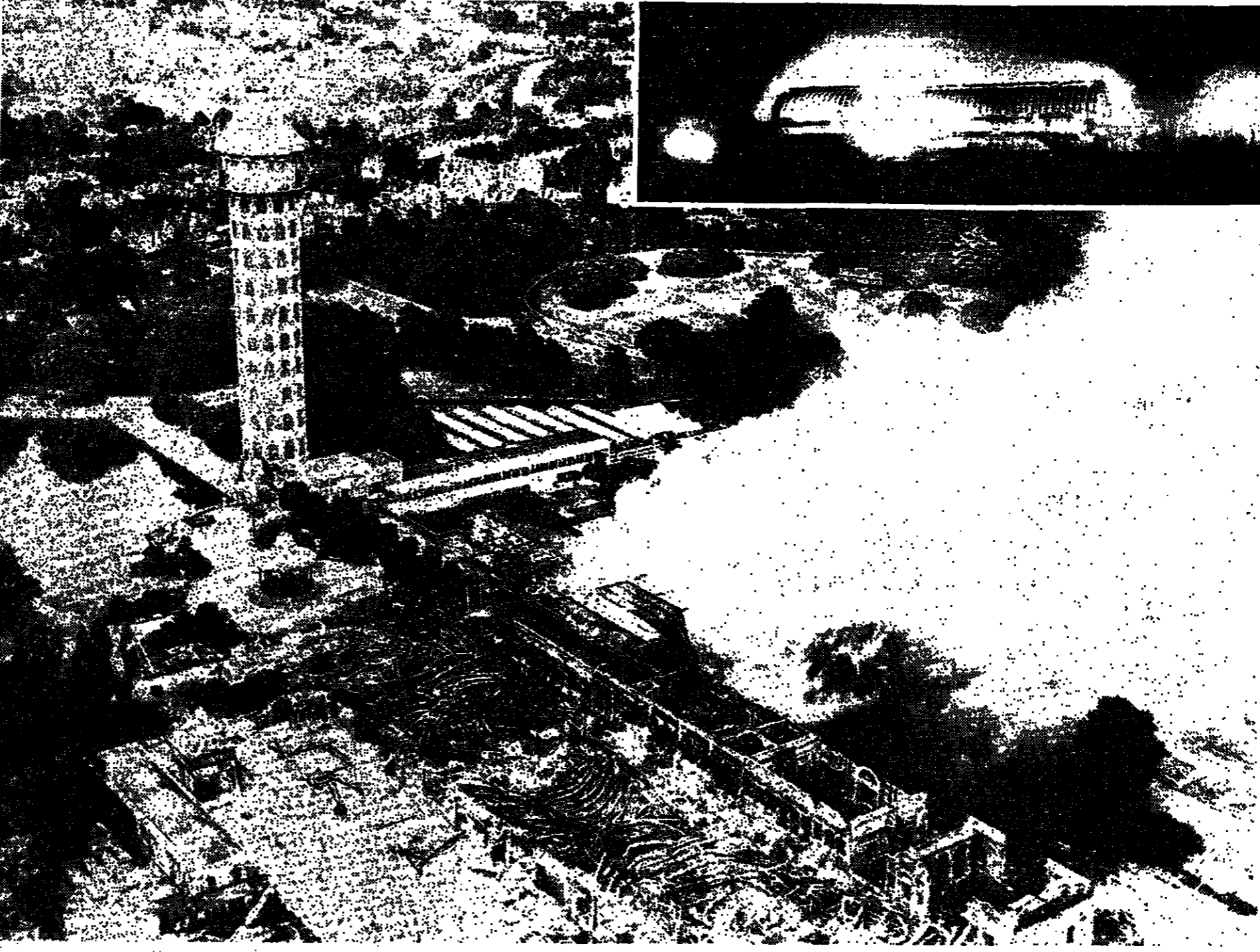
November 22-28, 1986

SATURDAY

A weekly guide to leisure, entertainment and the arts

Staging a Palace revolution

Fifty years ago this month, the Crystal Palace went up in flames. For the young Richard Dimbleby and his sound engineer, it was a chance to make radio history. David Howarth, who was that engineer, tells the story



Crystal blazing: the flaming buildings light up the sky (inset) leaving a scene of smoldering devastation. At the height of the blaze, girders drooped above a river of molten glass

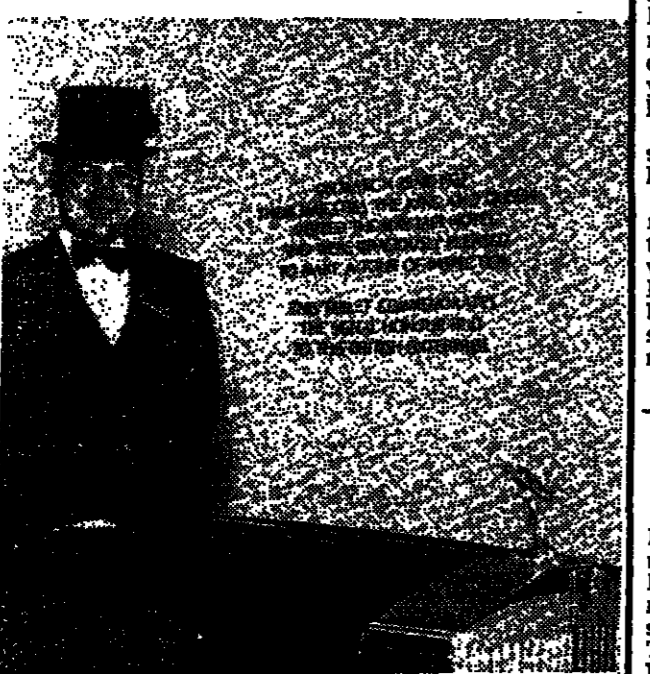
I might have been made for us. The first news came on the agency tapes at about six o'clock, just after the final editions of the evening papers. The story was ours alone until the morning - if we could get it. Few people are blasé enough to resist a good fire, and this was a perfect fire. I couldn't find Richard when the news came in. He was not in Broadcasting House so I left messages for him everywhere, rang the engineer in charge of the mobile recording unit nicknamed the "laundry van", who simply said, "We'll be there", and drove off in my Invicta, taking a senior man in News who wanted to come and watch.

We were bound for Sydenham in south London and the Crystal Palace, which had been moved there from Hyde Park after the Great Exhibition of 1851. Joseph Paxton's dramatic edifice of iron and glass had been one of the wonders of the Victorian age. Now it was ablaze. Richard and I had been thorough. Among other things, we had worked out and explored the quickest ways out of London, at various times of day, to anywhere in the country. There were surprisingly few of them, seven I think, and Sydenham was on one of them. So it was easy. I knew the short cuts. There were police checks where traffic was being diverted, but we had been issued with press passes and we were waved through. As we got closer the streets were full of fire engines all going hell for leather in the same direction and I joined them, flashing through the red traffic lights, a driver's dream. It must have been 6.45pm when I got there and parked the car outside a café in the main road opposite the building, which was already blazing magnificently. The laundry van came in by the same route, attaching itself to the fire brigade. And so did Richard. I don't know how he got there, but there he suddenly was, and I had never been more glad to see him. There were scores of fire engines already and more were coming in all the time, but with his journalistic instinct and skill he almost

instantly found the Commander of the London Fire Brigade himself ("David, his name's Firebrace, isn't it perfect?") - not only found him but insisted he had to take him inside the building and, escorted by that dignity, he vanished through its front gates. I went round the back as a stand-by with a lesser fireman, just in case Richard never came out again - which did not look unlikely. We all knew what to do without telling each other: be ready to record before eight o'clock and get the discs back to Broadcasting House in time for the nine o'clock news. There was a strong wind blowing in the eddy behind the building there was a space that was reasonably safe: overhead was a vast arch of burning embers. I don't think anyone had thought the Crystal Palace could burn, built as it was of iron and glass, and I still do not know exactly why it did. It may have had a wooden floor, and the ironwork certainly had a century of paint, and there was putty holding the glass. As soon as one end fell in it all made a huge wind-tunnel with a draught through it like a furnace. It was quite impossible to get in from the back, as I had hoped. On that side there was a row of glass corridors leading down to the gardens, and out of each a river of molten glass was flowing, and solidifying like lava when it cooled. Further in, iron girders were drooping and folding like sticks of spaghetti dipped in a boiling saucepan, and further out, in the garden, the trees were beginning to crackle. I got out again pretty quickly and ran back to the café and the laundry van and there was Richard, delightfully happy, black and minus his eyebrows, scribbling his script. Typically, he knew the whole history of the place by then, its vital statistics, who had designed it and above all what the fire brigade was doing. They had sent out a first-class call, which meant that every fire engine in London was there. I don't think they were trying to save the building - that was going to burn itself out. They

were there to save the shops and houses all around. But we did not record. By eight o'clock it was obvious that if we cut discs we could not get them away and back to Broadcasting House in time for the news. It would take all night. To start with, my car and the van were both surrounded by a web of hoses all over the road. Nobody could unravel them, and we certainly could not drive over them. Commander Firebrace was tolerant but he put his foot down at that. Beyond them, the main roads were full of fire engines and policemen and unnecessary ambulances, and the side roads were already black and blocked by crowds of people watching. The answer came to all of us at once. Richard, or it may have been me, timidly asked the senior engineer, "Could you hook up your amplifiers to a telephone line?" "Don't see why not," he said, "if you'll carry the can. Nothing else for it, is there?" By a stroke of luck, a BBC man much senior to us had turned up to see the fun. He was the respected S. J. de Lotbinière, head of outside broadcasts. Normally, his outside broadcast lines were corrected and balanced from ordinary telephone lines. He had no gear with him, and no engineers, but we had. We put it to him. "Nobody's ever done it, so far as I know," he said. "But if there was ever a time to try, it's now. If you need me, I'll share the blame." So we invaded the café and rang Broadcasting House, and somebody told the Post Office to keep the line open whatever happened. Then the engineers pulled the telephone off the wall and connected the amplifier, mixer and microphone. It was about 8.40pm: 20 minutes to go. The excitement even got to the Control Room at Broadcasting House, normally the most placid of places, where philosophical calm was the rule. I think someone had rung the chief engineer of the BBC himself. I don't know what he said, but it wasn't "No". They could hear us. The quality, they said, was not good, but they supposed we knew what we were doing. One of us had an ordinary radio receiver (it may have belonged to the café) so we could hear our cue, and they must have fixed a long lead on it, because I could hear the programme on headphones. I stood in the open with one microphone for background

something we had not expected, or had not worried about. There had been crowds before, but the broadcast brought out most of south London. People who tried to come by car were turned back miles away, but a million or so must have lived within walking distance, and walk they did. They were blocking every street, crowding every park, standing on roof tops and craning out of upstairs windows. That did not please the police or the fire brigade, but it made a wonderful evening. We did another broadcast that night in the final news at 10.15pm. It could have been second best, but at about 10 o'clock there was a crisis. Richard, of course, was always true to BBC tradition; he never exaggerated, expressed his own opinion, or relied on hearsay. But he was never averse to drama if it came his way. "Urgent message from the Chief of the London Fire Brigade," he began. "Anerley Hill is dangerous. Anerley Hill is the steep main road running down from the west end of the Palace. There are fears that west tower at the top of the hill may fall. It has a water tank on top with 100,000 gallons of water in it [he knew the exact figure] and if it falls a huge wave of water is going to pour down the hill. Please clear Anerley Hill at once. Get on to the higher ground to the west, or get into houses and go upstairs. I can see the tower from here, and hundreds of firemen playing their hoses on it, but it is smoking or steaming right up to the top. So I repeat the urgent message - please get off Anerley Hill." The danger was real, but in the event the firemen saved the tower. Indeed both towers - there was one at each end of the building - survived but were demolished five years later because of fears that they would provide a target for German bombers. © David Howarth 1986



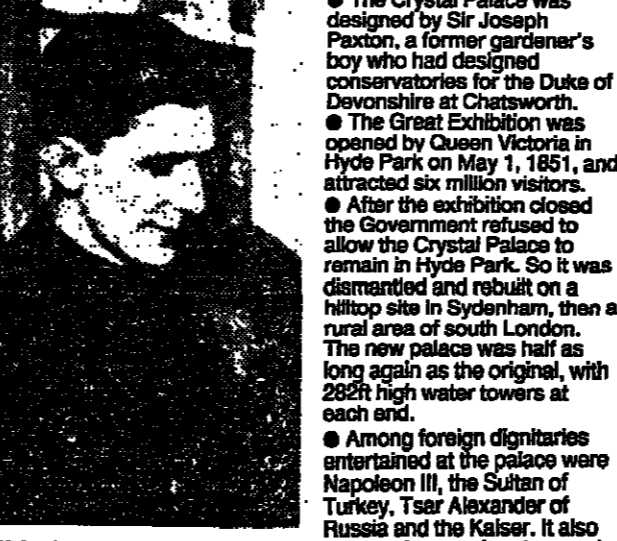
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sent back to Broadcasting House or one of the BBC's regional studios. All the same, we managed to cover a surprising amount of news. Very slowly, Richard's ideas of news presentation began to be accepted in the BBC, and listeners liked them as well. We went to ship launches, shipwrecks, mining disasters, floods - the strange sort of things that are counted as news in Fleet Street. I did not always go on his

expeditions. I was second in command of sound recording, which meant I was marginally too senior to disappear without warning. But I was there for what I might call Richard's apotheosis. That was the night the Crystal Palace burned down. It was a breakthrough for radio reporting. From now on the story came first and perfect sound quality second. It was accepted that when something important happened, Richard would be there.

'A gale of fresh air in the news room'

In September 1936 something unexpected happened in the BBC. A friend said: "There's a new man in News." What he said was an understatement. The new man was Richard Dimbleby. A gale of fresh air was about to blow through the news room. A new era in broadcasting was about to begin. He was a year younger than I, 23 when he joined the BBC. He had been a journalist since he left school and was then the editor of The Advertiser's Weekly, the youngest editor, he claimed, in Fleet Street. He had had the nerve to write to the BBC news editor, pointing out that broadcast news was accurate and reliable but deadly dull. Indeed it was. It all came from agencies and always began with the formula "Here is the news, copyright by Reuters, Press Association and Exchange Telegraph and Central News." Richard proposed a way of making it more exciting: he would go out and cover the stories himself. At first, he was hampered by the BBC's demands for superb sound quality, demands which could only be satisfied by a seven-man recording van. And he was obliged to continue recording his reports on to 12-inch wax discs, which then had to be

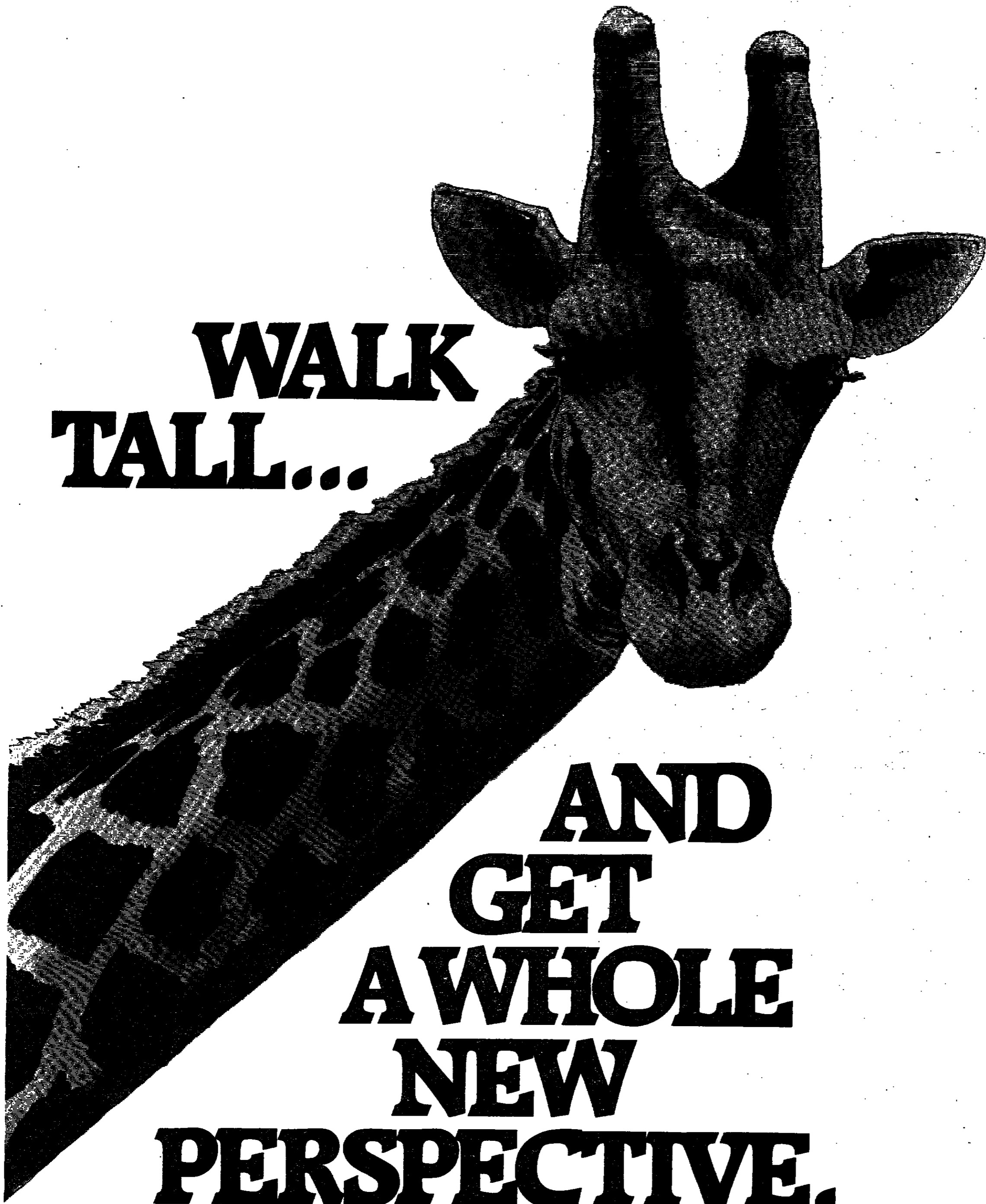


Breaking the sound barrier: Dimbleby (left), Howarth

SATURDAY. A first taste of the new vintage: our expert guide to 1986 Beaujolais nouveau - page 13. Arts Diary 17, Gardening 14, Bridge 17, Out and About 12, Chess 17, Opera 18, Concerts 18, Radio 18, Crossword 17, Review 17, Dance 18, Rock & Jazz 18, Drink 13, Shopping 15, Eating Out 15, Times Cook 15, Films 18, Travel 11, Galleries 18, TV & Radio 18.

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Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

TRAVEL 1

Wild days and wilder nights, safari-style

In the darkness a yard away from my right ear, an alarm bell exploded. It shattered the croaking, rumbly, chattering rhythm of the African night.

Ronald Faux drifts over the plains and sleeps under canvas, on a luxurious trail for Kenya's abundant animal life

of the animal kingdom; gentle bushbuck, mean-tempered buffalo and the unprepossessing warthog. The Ark raised the curtain on a spectacular trip to the Masai Mara game reserve arranged by Robin Hurst, whose aim was to provide a safari that was a cut above all others.

While we were in the Aberdares watching the busy life at the water-hole, a lorry

'Preying and preyed on in well-ordered, totally natural society'

loaded with a fridge, tents, tables and a crew of cooks and assistant cooks was already on its way to the Mara. We caught them up at Governor's Camp, travelling there in a Dakota with art deco interior. The pilot was proud of the fact that his aircraft first took to the air half a century ago. "Tremendous machines," he said, giving the compass a thump.

The Great Rift Valley, that geological axe-blow running down Africa separating Nairobi from the broad plains of Kenya, slid below. The Da-

our open-topped land cruisers, we saw a wealth of animals. These were prides of lions slumbering and arrogant in the long grass. We interrupted a pair of lions engaged in their lengthy mating ritual, the male looking distinctly heavy-eyed after coupling for the umpteenth time that day. "That's the way with lions," said Charlie. There were animals large, small and tall, preying and preyed-upon in unchanging, well-ordered and totally natural society.

One still dawn we went to nearby Little Governor's Camp, where John Coleman, balloons captain, was directing eight tons of hot air into a canopy the size of a circus tent. The tall lozenge of the Mara Rainbow struggled upright until her brightly-coloured stripes were vertical and eight of us climbed into a large laundry basket. The Captain added a final whiff of hot air that tipped the balance and we left the ground, directed by the faintest breeze, out across the treetops. The basket lurched the upper branches and we passed silently within two feet of a vulture's nest, the female giving us an evil look as we drifted by.

The zephyr carried us at walking pace over the clumps of trees bordering a swollen river and down to grass-top height the other side. We sailed across the river with the brown waters rushing just beneath us, over the smooth island formed by the back of a hippopotamus. Then, with a roar, Mara Rainbow rose to 1,000 feet, Captain Coleman turned off the burner and we drifted on in silence, the sounds of the plain rising to us, the flat wilderness stretching to every horizon. This was the Mara as seen by an eagle.

The landing was more down-to-earth, everyone crouched in a foetal position in the bottom of the basket as



Lap of luxury: a lioness and her cub pause for refreshment at a muddly water hole

we touched down. Unfortunately, the ground was covered with nine inches of flood water into which the basket tilted and formed a mighty bow wave. "Not as bad as my last landing into a field that had just been covered in pig slurry," said one passenger stoically. The 90-minute

Crusoe", as one guest called it. The club is a collection of bandas - buildings made entirely of thatch - set beneath a grove of casuarina trees, close to a long sickle of flawless beach beside the Indian Ocean. It is a warm, quiet and a quite extraordinary place.

Vanessa Aniere produces excellent food from the most primitive kitchen, borrowing from an international menu of fried seaweed, Japanese-style, pasta served with delicious chilli oil, small sweet pastries called *rostades* that are a Spanish idea using stale bread. Fresh bread is baked in an old tin trunk sunk in a bed of hot charcoal, and the seafood is rich in variety with a choice of crab or lobster at every meal and the benefit of whatever guests catch on fishing trips from the club, which can range from shark and sailfish to the smaller delicacies yielded by a tropical ocean.

'A place of primitive luxury, a five-star Robinson Crusoe'

adventure ended on a patch of dry ground where the recovery team produced breakfast and champagne and a red kite gave a superb acrobatic display. The tour ended on the Kenya coast, just north of Malindi, where Vanessa Aniere runs the Club Crusoe, a place of primitive luxury or "five-star Robinson

TRAVEL NEWS

Breaks with tradition

Short breaks in seven European cities over Christmas or the New Year are being run by Travelscene. Prices range from £199 for three nights in Luxembourg at Christmas to £395 for a four-night stay in Venice over the New Year. Other cities include Paris, Rome, Vienna, Amsterdam and Madrid, and travel is by scheduled airlines from Heathrow or Gatwick. Accommodation is in four or five-star hotels. Travelscene: 01-935 1025.

Top of the Channel hops

French ports are cashing in on the popularity of pre-Christmas shopping trips by Britons. Dunkirk's Auchan hypermarket is opening every Sunday between now and Christmas and most town-centre shops will also be open on November 30, December 14 and December 21.

The Travel Club of Upminster will again be giving an unconditional guarantee against surcharges in its 1987 summer programme. It has also added a guarantee that it will match any competitor which undercuts its prices on an identical holiday.

Information: 040 22 25000.

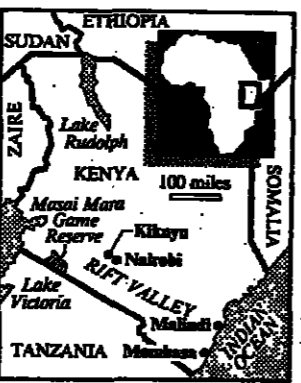
Ruling the waves again

Cunard is marking the return to service of the QE2 next year, after a six-month refit, with a 10-day return "maiden voyage" from Southampton to New York, departing on April 29. Prices range from £870 to £3,770 and include a sightseeing tour of Manhattan. Cunard: 0703 634166.

Philip Ray

TRAVEL NOTES

A 12-day trip to Africa with five nights on luxury safari, two days in Nairobi and five nights on the coast, costs from £2,067. Flight is by British Airways, which operates a daily service between London and Nairobi. Details from Supertravel, 22 Hans Place, London SW17 0EP (01-584 5201).



WEATHER EYE

Daytime temperatures: Coastal regions always in the upper 80s, uplands around Nairobi in the upper 70s. Humidity: Always uncomfortable on the coast; uplands - no problem; northern provinces, dry but uncomfortably hot. Rainfall: Occasional afternoon showers on coast. Uplands mainly dry but wetter in November and December. Northern provinces invariably dry and sunny.

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DRINK

Top tipples from a Nouveau riche

British wine shops are bursting with bottles of the 1986 Beaujolais, but does quantity mean quality? Jane MacQuitty reports

This year's Beaujolais Nouveau has a lot to live up to. Last year's superb vintage was voted one of the best by merchants and drinkers alike who sold and drank the region dry. Georges Duboeuf, one of Beaujolais' biggest merchants, thought it was the finest vintage for 40 years, and even if others were a shade less enthusiastic they still felt it was the best for a decade. Everyone rushed to join the Beaujolais bandwagon and to date 100 million litres of 1985 vintage have been sold worldwide. This year the wine trade obviously intends that the reflected glory of the 1985 vintage will turn Beaujolais Nouveau into the biggest pre-Christmas money spinner of all time. A record amount of 1986 vintage has been shipped by UK wine merchants. In the stampede to round-up as many bottles as they can get, the British wine traders have, it seems, overlooked a vital factor: the excellence or otherwise of the wine in the bottle. My first taste of the 1986 Nouveau was last month in the little village of Le Bois d'Oingt in the south of the region. By the end of the day I had visited four growers in as many villages and was worried. True, much of the wine had only just finished fermenting (the vintage started on September 18), but where was that fresh gulpable



New bouquet: the top three wines and (from left to right) The Times 1986 Beaujolais Nouveau judges, Robin Young, Jane MacQuitty, David Gleave and Don Hewitson, at the tasting

intoxicating juicy Nouveau flavour? As the results of *The Times* 1986 Beaujolais Nouveau tasting published below demonstrate, my early fears concerning overproduction and neutrality have proved correct. Oceans of unexciting, albeit acceptable 1986 Beaujolais Nouveau wines have been made. My advice is to buy a bottle or two from our first three categories. Any other Nouveau purchases are likely to disappoint. Joining me in the taxing 8am task of evaluating 28 different 1986 Beaujolais Nouveaux wines blind at Shampers Wine Bar in Kingly Street, London W1, were Don Hewitson from the award-winning Cork & Bottle wine bar group, Master of Wine David Gleave, from The Mar-

ket and Wine Cellars, and Robin Young from *The Times*. Despite the early start, the final bottles for the tasting did not turn up until lunchtime due to gales in the Channel, helicopters delayed by fog, two-hour spot checks at Calais and French lorry drivers deciding to stop off for a sleep en route. Once again, Le Beaujolais Nouveau est arrive, just.

G.T. Jones, 40 Church Road, Horspath, Oxford, £2.95; Noble Grape, 26 The Highway, London E1, £3.50 Much admired by all the tasters this "light, vibrant elegant fruity Nouveau" (JMQ) both tasted and smell of cherries. RY found it "appealing and stylish", DG with "sweet attractive cherry-ade fruit" and DH "my kind of Nouveau - full of flavour". 1986 Pasquier-Desvignes Beaujolais Nouveau; Roberts & Cooper £2.69 A notch behind the other two this "light, lively zesty zesty raspberry wine" (JMQ) is a good inexpensive example of this year's lighter style.

1986 Georges Duboeuf Beaujolais Nouveau; Europe Food & Wine, £2.99, Curzon Wine Company, 11 Curzon Street, London W1, £3.59; Colchester Wine Warehouse, Cowdray Centre, Colchester, £2.85 This "delicious classic fresh zesty raspberry-banana" wine (JMQ) is what Beaujolais Nouveau is all about: enjoyment. Elegant and well-made with an attractive label, Monsieur Sarrazin's offering was also much enjoyed by DG "attractive and nicely perfumed". 1986 Mommessin Beaujolais Nouveau; The Old Milling Wine Shop, Long Melford, Suffolk, £2.95;

This Nouveau had a "vibrant crimson purple colour plus a fresh fruity raspberry-redcurrant smell and taste" (JMQ). It was "elegant and quietly attractive" for RY and had "light berried fruit" for DG. 1986 Sainsbury's Beaujolais Nouveau, J. Burditt; Sainsbury's, £2.69 "Bright crimson purple colour, richer plummer small and taste with a clean lively finish" (JMQ). DH felt it had "depth and character". A good buy at the price. 1986 Tesco Beaujolais Nouveau, Arthur Barolet at Fife; Tesco, £2.69 Pale colour light zesty-lemmony fruit" (JMQ), "fragile colour, delicate" (RY), "light soft sweet fruit" (DG). All added up to what DH dubbed "Instant Nouveau". 1986 Thorin Beaujolais Nouveau; Peter Dominic, £1.99 This wine had a "light zesty cherry and banana nose backed up by a soft fruity palate" (JMQ). A cheap and cheerful Nouveau for those who don't want to spend more than £2.

1986 Beaujolais Primeur, Celler des Samsons, Oddbins, £2.69 JMQ wasn't keen on this one but the rest of the panel was: DG "good fuller style", RY "cheruby", DH "fruit on nose, fragrant finish". 1986 Beaujolais-Régis, Domaine des Braves, Paul Cinguis; Caves de la Madeleine, 301 Fulham Road, London SW10, £3.45; Malmesdon Wine Club, 28 Midland Road, London NW1, £3.45 Blessed with a "amoly-fruity small and taste" (JMQ), "attractive colour good raspberry fruit" (RY), and "enjoyable, my style of Nouveau" (DH). 1986 Loron Beaujolais Villages Nouveau; Wines Galore, 165, Greenwich High Road, London, SE10, £3.50 This late arrival had a "deep purple colour and a light well-made fruity-cherry taste" (JMQ).

1986 Beaujolais Primeur, Dufouleur Pere et Fils; Superwines, 209 Kings Road, London SW3, £2.95; Vinegar Joes, 46 Pimlico Road, London SW1, £2.99 "Fruity-zesty nose but very light berry flavour" noted JMQ. DG: "light and thin", but DH was keener: "fruit and delicacy". 1986 Beaujolais Nouveau, E. Loron; Chaplin & Son, 35 Rowland Road, Worthing, West Sussex, £2.99; Ellis, Son and Vidler, 57 Cambridge Street, London SW1, £2.34 "Vibrant purple colour, dumb nose and medium fruity taste" wrote JMQ. "Jammy strawberry fruit" noted DG. DH was happier: "good fruit, stylish finish". 1986 Beaujolais Primeur, Pierre Pontelle; Army & Navy Stores, £2.95 "Medium purple-red, fresh fruity bouquet but dull with it" (JMQ). DG agreed: "light jammy neutral - not offensive". DH, however, loved this one: "subtle, very drinkable - reeking of Gamay". 1986 Beaujolais-Villages, Prosper Mafoux; Wizard Wine Warehouses, Croydon and Kingston upon Thames, £3.79 "Perfumed, fruity, but a bit dull and watery" was JMQ's comment. RY: "fragile but acceptable". DG "sound stable wine". 1986 Plat Beaujolais Nouveau; Peter Dominic, £2.99 JMQ and DH tolerated this one. Their comments: "gubby, acidic" and "not bad" but neither RY nor DG had a good word to say for it.

Verdict of the judges

TOP THREE

1986 Robert Sarrazin Beaujolais Nouveau; Europe Food & Wine, £2.99, Curzon Wine Company, 11 Curzon Street, London W1, £3.59; Colchester Wine Warehouse, Cowdray Centre, Colchester, £2.85 This "delicious classic fresh zesty raspberry-banana" wine (JMQ) is what Beaujolais Nouveau is all about: enjoyment. Elegant and well-made with an attractive label, Monsieur Sarrazin's offering was also much enjoyed by DG "attractive and nicely perfumed". 1986 Mommessin Beaujolais Nouveau; The Old Milling Wine Shop, Long Melford, Suffolk, £2.95;

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

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ACCEPTABLE

1986 Beaujolais Primeur, Celler des Samsons, Oddbins, £2.69 JMQ wasn't keen on this one but the rest of the panel was: DG "good fuller style", RY "cheruby", DH "fruit on nose, fragrant finish". 1986 Beaujolais-Régis, Domaine des Braves, Paul Cinguis; Caves de la Madeleine, 301 Fulham Road, London SW10, £3.45; Malmesdon Wine Club, 28 Midland Road, London NW1, £3.45 Blessed with a "amoly-fruity small and taste" (JMQ), "attractive colour good raspberry fruit" (RY), and "enjoyable, my style of Nouveau" (DH). 1986 Loron Beaujolais Villages Nouveau; Wines Galore, 165, Greenwich High Road, London, SE10, £3.50 This late arrival had a "deep purple colour and a light well-made fruity-cherry taste" (JMQ).



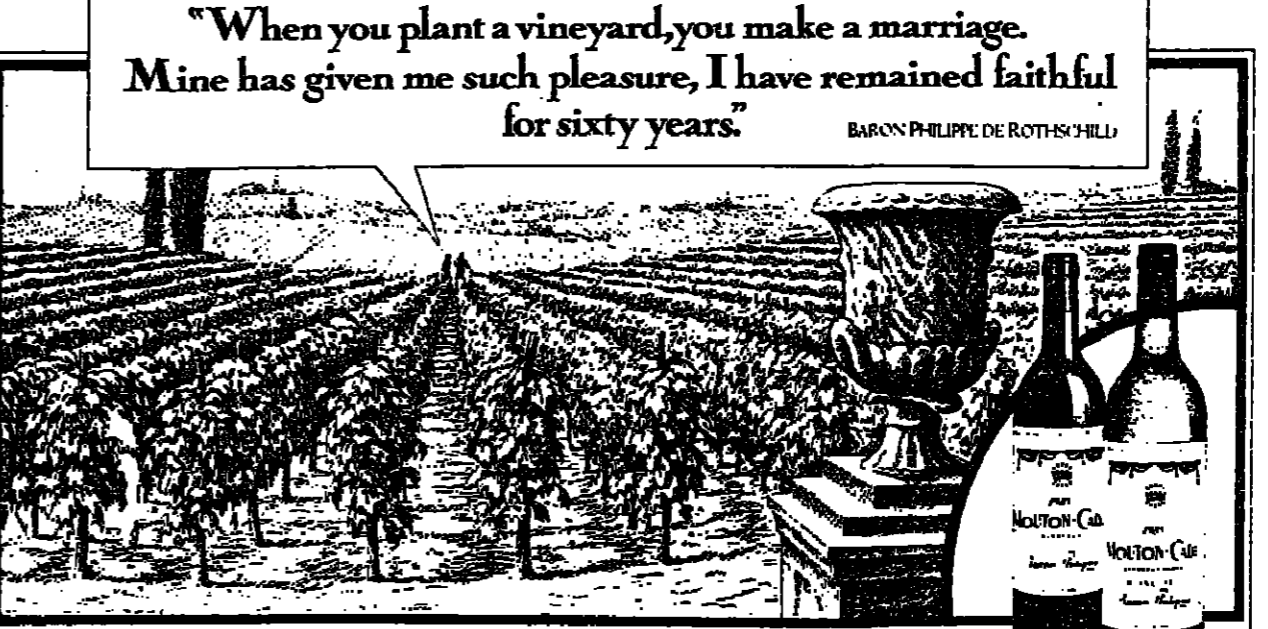
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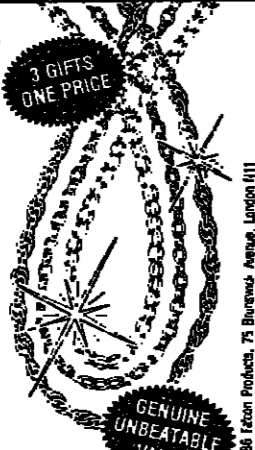
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This is the time of year to seek out wild service, not only for their beauty but for their fruit. They are eaten "bletted" - that is, when they have turned brown and soft, some while after picking. They taste sweet and spicy, somewhat granular in texture. In the past they were widely used to flavour beer, and the country name checkers or chequer tree is said to have given rise to pubs of the same name.

As a word of warning when picking any wild fruit, always use a good guide book to identify trees and bushes correctly and to make sure that they are safe to eat. Services are not difficult to grow from seed but germination is greatly hastened if they are refrigerated in a polythene bag of sand and peat for several weeks. After sowing the seeds in a tray or drill outside, protect them from mice and birds. Seedlings should be pricked out into pots of John Innes Number Two or left in the ground until autumn and then planted to a position where they can grow for two or three years in a nursery bed before being transplanted to their permanent sites.

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THE TIMES ARTS DIARY

Right song and dance

Discommod notes are expected at a stormy AGM of the English Folk Song and Dance Society today. Battle lines have been drawn following a proposal by the national executive to sell or redevelop its headquarters, Cecil Sharp House, to pay off debts of around £50,000. Director Jim Lloyd tells me the 1930s building is obsolete, costly to run and no longer fulfil the society's needs. Not so, argues a growing opposition group anxious to preserve the building, which houses the Vaughan Williams library. Since being formed last month, it has recruited 800 members and raised almost £8,000 for a last-ditch rescue bid. Lloyd says the NEC may be forced to resign if its motion is defeated. But where the compilation becomes an art form in its own right is in the marketing of hip hop. So far, few hip hop acts have even made an album, and their singles, mostly imports, arrive in unreliable dribs and drabs. Thus, compilations are the best means of access to these vibrant new sounds, and Hip Hop Electro 15 is worth buying for Duke Bootee's extraordinary "Broadway" rap alone. Bootee, the man who actually performed the vocals on Grandmaster Flash's "The Message" rousts down New York's most famous street, describing some of the less widely advertised nightlife there, while a bass and drum track lurch behind with confident splendour. Kurtis Blow declaims his own message on "The Bronx" and Faze One provides the album's most apposite title, "Layin' Down a Beat".

Stop at red

The self-styled Smallest Theatre in the World is the latest victim of the Chernobyl disaster. The three-member group, presently rehearsing for *Cinderella* at the Albany Empire, south-east London, operates from a 650cc Russian motor cycle. Unfortunately, the machine has ground to a halt due to lack of spare parts, and the factory that makes them appears to have closed. Guess where it was?

The final bite

Time is running out for the National Portrait Gallery's bid to acquire the adjacent former dental hospital in Leicester Square to display its growing collection of 20th-century paintings and photographs. Chairman Lord Kenyon, supported by Royal Academy president Roger de Grey, has been lobbying Government "at the highest level" to provide the necessary funds, but without success. The deadline for the transfer



of the six-storey building is next Friday, after which it will go on the market. I am told private arts sponsors may be found to transform the property, but are unwilling to fund its transfer from one Government department to another. The NPC's space shortage is said to be acute, seriously compromising its commissioning of new works of contemporary art. If the deal falls through, stand by for a gasping of teeth. There is not much Christmas spirit among the ITV unions. Harry Scoble spent three months preparing to broadcast a seasonal message of hope from the troubled Holy Land, in a special Christmas edition of *Highway*. But the trip was called off by a union manning dispute. Royal David's city this year will be London.

Queen Victoria would probably not be amused by an exhibition of holography planned by the V & A in January. Entitled *The Body in Question: Knickers and Stockings*, it features three-dimensional projections of ladies' underwear... see-through, of course. Gavin Bell

Smalls talk

Queen Victoria would probably not be amused by an exhibition of holography planned by the V & A in January. Entitled *The Body in Question: Knickers and Stockings*, it features three-dimensional projections of ladies' underwear... see-through, of course. Gavin Bell

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1113

Prizes of the New Collins Thesaurus will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Thursday, November 27, 1986. Entries should be addressed to The Times Concise Crossword Competition, 1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, November 29, 1986.

Crossword puzzle grid with clues: 1 Shampoo packet (6), 4 Shrewd (6), 7 Race programme (4), 8 Violent change (8), 9 Cutlag archipelago (12), 15 Hindu natural law (6), 16 High ground (6), 17 Dressing mirror (7,5), 23 Choice (8), 24 Duty register (4), 25 Reward (6), 26 Wretchedness (6). DOWN: 1 Hit with force (4), 2 Black diamond (9), 3 Durable (5), 4 Pallid (5), 5 Characteristic feature (5), 6 Sympathetic (5), 10 Animated corpse (5), 11 Push forward (5), 12 Sleet (9), 13 Branch junction (4), 14 Worshipped object (4), 18 Yellow orange (5), 19 Swedish money unit (5), 20 Nick (5), 21 Small beam (5), 22 Risque (4).

SOLUTION TO NO 1112: ACROSS: 1 Herald 4 Haste 7 Muff 8 Portsmouth 9 Outrank 11 Donor 12 Knickerbocker 15 Cuckoo 16 Speed up 20 Resonant 21 Head 22 Tropic 23 Divan 4 DOWN: 1 Hamlet 2 Refit 3 Divan 4 Hire 5 Sputnik 6 Ether 10 Ankle 11 Droze 13 Inceptor 14 Rapidly 15 Canst 17 Pouch 18 Dread 19 Gait

SOLUTION TO NO 1107 (last Saturday's prize concise): ACROSS: 1 Suffragette 9 Horfoot 10 Gaur 11 Ore 13 Malt 16 Kith 17 lumber 18 None 20 Fair 21 Adverse 22 Expire 23 Ways 25 Cos 28 Estol 29 Tropic 30 Buden Powell DOWN: 2 Unill 3 Flog 4 Aho 5 Edge 6 Tarsina 7 Chemin de fer 8 Arthur's Seat 12 Roadie 14 Tie 15 Voodoo 19 Naphtha 20 Pew 24 Atoll 25 Cine 26 Stop 27 Spew

REVIEW

The old bull and Bush



Perfect packaging: Kate Bush releases a collection of singles, from debut to current hit

ROCK RECORDS

Kate Bush The Whole Story (EMI KBTV 1A) Madness Utter Madness (Zarjaz JZLP 2) Various Artists Conspiracy of Hope (Mercury MERRH 93) Supertramp The Autobiography of Supertramp (A&M Tramp 1) Various Artists Hip Hop Electro 15 (Street Sounds ELCS1 15)

Christmas is coming and the charts are already starting full of complications, confirming a familiar pattern of music-business marketing strategy. Of last week's top 10 albums, no fewer than five were "Greatest Hits" or collections of previous releases.

Like the rest of us, record companies and rock stars are not averse to earning money for little or no work, but this endearing legacy of reissued recordings highlights a depressing long-term trend towards ossification. Currently Queen's Greatest Hits is still in the top 50 after 3 1/2 years.

But on a more prosaic level, compilations offer good value for money (all the "best" songs) and, if released at the right moment, may draw the awkwardly-shaped baggage of a lengthy pop career into a tidy package.

Thus it is with Kate Bush, whose album The Whole Story neatly encapsulates her 12 best single releases, including the current hit "Experiment IV".

When "Wuthering Heights" soared with such ease to No 1 in the spring of 1978, many observers either imagined or hoped that the success of the pouting 19-year-old girl with the catering vocal style and preposterous dance routines would be a short-lived novelty. But despite some of her more off-

putting mannerisms - the babyish gurgling in "Army Dreamers" and the strident screeching in "Sat in your Lap" - she has developed as a writer and performer of some depth. Despite the big production job, "Wows" demonstrated a pleasing sense of irony while "Cloudusting" and "Running Up That Hill" revealed an increasingly sophisticated sense of rhythm, melody and narrative awareness. Utter Madness is the second instalment of hits by the nutty lads from North London, following 1982's Complete Madness, and what is the betting that even now some executive is looking ahead to an eventual double album

and numbers like "Wings of a Dove", "Uncle Sam" and the ineffable "Michael Caine" are perfect mementoes of an extraordinary career. With The Autobiography of Supertramp the going gets considerably tougher. The band, who had a handful of hits in the 1970s - "The Logical Song", "Dreams" and "Breakfast in America" - notable for the infamously wooden style of their pianist and Roger Hodgson's emasculated vocals, are still together. But raking over this old stuff, together with minor embarrassments like "Bloody Well Right" and "It's Raining Again", puts the finger on a musical pulse that should have

which will be a complete and utter collection of repackaged, re-released, re-releases? By the time of "Driving in my Car" and "Our House", which is where this album picks up the story, Madness had established themselves as the superficially happy-go-lucky pop band who nevertheless drew on an underlying air of vandyllian melancholy in their wittily observed vignettes. "Tomorrow's (Just another Day)", "Yesterday's Man" and "The Sun and the Rain" had a downside that belied the group's crazy antics in their videos. The ingenious horn arrangements and Suggs' deadpan vocal delivery were their strongest cards,

JAZZ RECORDS

Gene Harris Trio Plus One (Concord Jazz CJ-308)

Critics paid scant attention to the American pianist Gene Harris in the Sixties, when he was a member of a mildly successful trio called the Three Sounds. Clearly designed as the Blue Note label's response to Oscar Peterson and Ramsey Lewis, Harris's little ensemble looked out of place among the roster of giants on the company's books. Even when they joined the tenor saxophonist Stanley Turrentine for an album, Blue Hour, that 25 years later sounds like a classic, they were denied serious consideration.

Yet Harris, now in his middle fifties, may soon be in receipt of serious critical recognition for the first time in his career. A few months ago, he played a notable supporting role in a satisfying album by Benny Carter, now he reunites with Turrentine's tenor saxophone for The Gene Harris Trio Plus One, which is nothing sort of a revelation. Recorded live at a New York club, the album begins

Fireworks display



Authority: Stanley Turrentine audaciously by fading up with Harris and his rhythm section mates, the great bassist Ray Brown and the drummer Mickey Roker, already locked into the irresistible strutting groove of the inappropriately titled "Gene's Lament". When Turrentine joins in, it is with the supreme authority that persuades me of his current pre-eminence among

CLASSICAL RECORDS

Messiaen: Piano works vol 2 (HM/Unicorn-Kanchana DKP 905) (black disc) Regner Bach Variations; Haydn: Sonata no 50 Serkin CBS IM 39562 (black disc)

Peter Hill's cycle of the Messiaen piano works looks set to become as much a classic of dedicated virtuosity as Jennifer Bate's display of the organ works for the same recording company. There is a similar zest in exactness, a keen edge that makes the rhythms much more incisive than mechanical, and that polishes up the colours with unerring precision.

In this respect Hill's partnership with his Bosendorfer is as complete as Bate's with the organ at Beauvais: he uses its powerful, clear-speaking bass and its smooth or resilient upper textures as so many stops. And this is the essence of performing Messiaen, to conceive the piano as a storehouse of many separate treasures, not as a legato instrument. The main works here are

Zest for rhythm

Cameloydaya and the Quatre études de rythme, both dating from 1949-50, when Messiaen's music was at its most abstract and speculative. As Hill shows, however, even the most elaborate constructions are vital sounding ideas. The performance of the four studies is particularly remarkable in showing how the pieces cohere, as two vigorous dances separated by a slowly rotating cloud of atomic fragments ("Mode de valeurs") and a new coalescence ("Nœmes rythmiques"). Pianist and music are again well matched in Rudolf Serkin's recording of Regner's Variations and Fugue on a Theme by Bach. The piece is a monumental enterprise in identification with the past, conveying as much regret as reverence, as much loneliness as power. For Serkin's dispassionate command one can overlook the odd mistakes and vocal self-encouragements. Paul Griffiths

Drawn by a life of ritual self-sacrifice

PAPERBACKS

Against All Reason by Geoffrey Moorhouse (Spectra, £4.95)

The monastic life is never easy. Every day one or other of the brethren was led into choir with a rope round his neck, was spat upon and walked over by the rest of the community as he lay prostrate in the sanctuary, and had to beg for his food until it was another person's turn the next day.

"We never allowed ourselves to think," recalled Father Ignatius of his community, whose principles were scarcely hedonistic.

Geoffrey Moorhouse thinks long and hard in *Against All Reason*, pondering the monastery's history and paradoxical appeal with a critical eye. And with scrupulous sympathy, he surveys the religious life in all its forms: monks, friars, nuns, brothers, sisters - those who live in communities and vow to live in poverty, chastity, and obedience (one and a quarter million people today).

A central question intrigues him. Exclusion or participation. Traditional monasticism meant a life remote from the world's business. Another kind follows Christ's injunction to mix with the lost sheep.

Charles de Foucauld was a pioneer of the latter sort, a Gallic Byron of the religious world in the late 19th century, who at 23 - "a dashing rake of a crack regiment" - was cashiered for keeping a mistress. From such improbable material emerged a man with a "craving for self-abnegation", who settled quietly in the Sahara Desert among the Tuaregs, wearing a white habit with red heart sewn on. Foucauld built a mud chapel, taught them to knit and grow vegetables. Fifteen years on he was casually shot by a band of passing tribesmen.

He had no disciples, but his writings - describing his principle of embracing the lifestyle of those in need - led to imitations such as the Little Brothers and Sisters of Jesus (One such fraternity works locally today in Leeds, living in a small house with the attic as their chapel). Foucauld's initiative out in the wilderness helped spawn a counter-tradition to monastic insularity, that of participation.

Against All Reason is a scholarly, dense, yet readable book that covers a huge amount of ground. The author wears his learning lightly. He describes a fascinating variety of existences, mostly remote from the average conception of a fulfilled life.

Kathy O'Shaghnessy

Crime and passion

BOOKS IN BRIEF

A Taste for Death by P.D. James (Faber, £5.95)

This is a typically English detective story. It is not exactly in the country house tradition, as it is set chiefly in Notting Hill and Harrow Road, but it hinges on wealth and class, and the detective is cool in the manner of Margery Allingham's Campion. As a thriller it is rather dull. We are never in doubt about the villain - the satisfaction comes from watching the detective find his way to a solution which is made pretty clear from the start.

The Hard Life by Flann O'Brien (Grafton, £4.95)

This is traditional Irish comedy. Flann O'Brien is inventive, his storytelling is swift and sure, making the eccentric seem natural and the commonplace hilarious. Mr Colpo presides over his house in Dublin, drinking whiskey and discussing the state of the world, and the Catholic view of it, almost as if he were in charge of the Church's policy himself.

He revels in circular argument, in extravagant statement. His whole life, in fact, is a celebration of the glory of talk. The whole novel is like a sort of party - a boisterous one at which a lot of Irishmen meet fortuitously and rejoice in their wit.

The Black House by Paul Theroux (Penguin, £2.50)

Even Dorset village life may

have its witchcraft. As Dr Munday and his wife return from their life in Uganda they look forward to the cosy welcome of a rented cottage, set in gentle hills and gentle weather and near a nice English pub. It is not to be. The pub is not welcoming, the people are quarrelsome and the cottage is a bleak house full of indefinable terrors.

Paul Theroux conveys exactly the sense of subdued threat and insult that belongs to village life at its most insular. He builds up a story of real terror from the simplest elements of ordinary life, and describes the discord between man and wife that grows from unease into lingering horror.

In Another Country by John Bayley (Oxford, £3.95)

This is John Bayley's only novel so far. It was first published in 1955, and it explores the atmosphere of that extraordinary period after the Second World War, when people in Europe were struggling to resume normal peacetime lifestyles, and to sort out the postwar mess. The actual events of the story now seem rather remote, because that brief and fidgety period between war and peace set up tensions that are now no longer meaningful; but this hardly detracts from the novel's power. As an illustration of the ways in which people conduct their dealings and perceive their relationships with each other, this is a rare work of art.

Anne Barnes

La Musique advertisement for Le Meridien Piccadilly. Text: Cool jazz with a cool drink in the Burlington Bar from the keyboard of James McKissic the celebrated American pianist. Savour tea in the lounge to the delicate strains of the harp with resident harpist Katherine White. Enjoy sweet violin and piano melodies with Eduardo Gallardo and Adolph Ziros over your gourmet meal in the Oak Room restaurant. La musique at Le Meridien. The very soul of France in the very heart of London. Le Meridien Piccadilly, Piccadilly, London W1V 0BH. (Formerly The New Piccadilly Hotel) Tel: 734 8000.

BRIDGE

Bridge puzzle with diagram and text: Declarer took the diamond in hand with the OQ and played the ♠9. West contributed an unhelpful ♠4, and East was permitted to win with the ♠J. Jumping to the conclusion that South initially held two spades, East turned his mind to saving overtricks. His heart switch proved more popular with South than West. Of course, had he switched to clubs, the contract would have gone two down, and even a pedestrian diamond continuation would have been good enough. Perhaps West's failure to signal could be dubbed contributory negligence. But if East had visualized the spade position, he should have realized that South must hold the AKQx of hearts to explain his play of the spade suit. Jeremy Flint

CHESS

Chess puzzle with diagram and text: After his defeat in the world title match, Karpov bravely resolved to plunge at once into the thick of tournament fray. The traditional tournament at Tilburg in Holland, sponsored by the Interpolis insurance group, posed a severe challenge. Karpov has always been remarkably successful when he has competed at Tilburg, but this year the line-up was exceptionally formidable. The nature of the test was heightened by the fact that each player would have to face his rivals twice. As it was, Karpov's bold bid to regain his prestige and restore his shattered confidence went badly awry. The former champion succeeded in winning only two games from 14 and finished third. This result does not augur well for Karpov's qualifying match with Sokolov next year, but in my view Karpov must still be the clear favourite. Karpov's one loss at Tilburg was to his compatriot, the ferocious Alexander Beliavsky. White needs to regroup this Knight for his Queen's side offensive, but now the Black Knight can seize an aggressive post at h4, permanently menacing White's King. The Black forces gather around White's monarch. Overlooking Black's threat. He must play 25 f4! followed by Qc2 to safeguard his King. Scattering the fortifications around White's King. November 1986, Queen's Gambit Declined. See diagram. Now Black carries out the executioner's stroke. If 32 dxc5 d4 discovered check wins. The final indignity. If 36 Rxe2 Nxe2+ White resigns. One of the worst defeats of Karpov's career. Raymond Keene

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JOHN LILL. Tuesday 2 December 7.45pm.

BEETHOVEN Piano Concerto No. 1, BEETHOVEN Piano Concerto No. 2, BEETHOVEN Piano Concerto No. 3. Wednesday 3 December 7.30pm: MOZART Overture 'Egmont', BEETHOVEN Piano Concerto No. 4, BEETHOVEN Piano Concerto No. 5.

WREN OF LONDON

Conductor: JACEK KASPRZYK. Clarinet: MICHAEL COLLINS.

WAGNER Overture, Tannhäuser, Weber Clarinet Concerto No. 2, DVORAK Symphony No. 7. Thursday 27 November at 7.45pm: MOZART Mass in C minor K. 427 'Great'.

St John's Smith Square

St John's Church, Smith Square, W1P 2JD. SUNDAY 28th DECEMBER AT 7.30.

THE HANOVER BAND. Musical Director/violinist ROY GOODMAN. WEBER Violin No. 2, ANTHONY HALSTEAD horn, BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 5.

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL. TOMORROW at 7.30.

TRAGIC OVERTURE, PIANO CONCERTO NO. 1, SYMPHONY NO. 1. Conductor ANTONI DORATI. Soloist STEPHEN BISHOP-KOVACEVICH. THURSDAY 27 NOVEMBER at 7.30: ACADEMIC FESTIVAL OVERTURE, PIANO CONCERTO NO. 2, SYMPHONY NO. 2. Conductor ANTONI DORATI. Soloist JORGE BOLET.

WIGMORE HALL

WIGMORE STREET, W1. SATURDAY 6 DECEMBER at 7.30pm.

NASH ENSEMBLE. FELICITY LOTT soprano, MOZART Clarinet Trio in E flat K.498, SHOSTAKOVICH Seven Pieces for Voice and Piano, TCHAIKOVSKY Songs with piano, SHOSTAKOVICH Piano Concerto No. 5, BRAHMS Serenade No. 1.

FAIRFIELD HALL CROYDON

Wednesday 3 December 8.00pm.

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA. NICHOLAS CLEOBURY, RALPH MARKHAM, KENNETH BROADWAY. ELGAR Overture 'Lackington', RAVEL Piano for voice and piano, SIBELIUS Kanto Suite, GERSHWIN An American in Paris.

HAYDN NELSON MASS

Handel: Zadok the Priest. Britten: Hymn to St. Cecilia. City of London Sinfonia, conducted by Richard Hickox.

THE WOMEN

Directed by PETER WOOD. PALACE THEATRE 434 0000 CC. 434 0000 CC. 434 0000 CC.

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

SUNDAY 30 NOVEMBER at 7.30 p.m.

BARBER OF SEVILLE Overture, WATER MUSIC Suite, PIANO CONCERTO No. 3 (ERICA), BEETHOVEN SYMPHONY No. 3 (ERICA). LONDON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA. Conductor JAMES JODKO. BBC Symphony Orchestra. SIR JOHN PRITCHARD. DMITRI ALEXEEV. PROKOFIEV Piano Concerto No. 2, SHOSTAKOVICH Symphony No. 11 'The Year 1905'.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL

ROYAL CHORAL SOCIETY. Conductor: LASZLO HELTAY.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY 19 & 20 DECEMBER at 7.30. TRADITIONAL FAMILY CAROL CONCERTS. CAMBRIDGE BUSKERS. A CHILDREN'S TRADITIONAL CAROL CONCERT. BASIL BRUSH with DOUG RIDLEY.

THEATRES

APOLLO THEATRE 437 2643. THE PORTFOLIO OF 'ALAN'. LAURENCE OLIVIER. LEND ME A TENDR. THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA. THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA.

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LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

TWO CONCERTS WITH KRYSZTIAN ZIMERMAN GARY BERTINI.

TUESDAY 9 DECEMBER at 7.30pm. LISZT Piano Concerto No. 2, MAHLER Symphony No. 6. SUNDAY 14 DECEMBER at 3.15pm. BRAHMS Piano Concerto No. 1, TCHAIKOVSKY Symphony No. 5.

BACH

COMPLETE BRANDENBURG CONCERTOS CHRISTMAS ORATORIO THE GREAT MOTETS.

JOHN ELIOT GARDINER, Conductor. 'Such has been the success of his London directorial work that a Brandenburg Concerto, one of the Christmas Oratorios and a Mass, are being performed at Wigmore Hall on Tuesday 2 December.

THEATRES

APOLLO THEATRE 437 2643. THE PORTFOLIO OF 'ALAN'. LAURENCE OLIVIER. LEND ME A TENDR. THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA. THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA.

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SPORTS DIARY

Frances Edmonds in Australia

Test Match Special

After England's comeback win over Australia in Brisbane, I was looking forward to reporting the victory speech by captain Ian Gating, whose rhetoric innocuous, sensational-as-watching-paint-dry statements are fondly referred to as the "Gatysbury addresses." However, as I followed the all-male press corps into the enclosure outside the pavilion I was obstructed by a withered Oz-Cerberus defending the entrance with ferocity. "You cannot come in here," he ordered. "You are a lady." There was no answer to that.

Watching the after-match pavilion celebration in Cinderella-exclusion over the picket fence, I noted the absence from the champagne jollity of two Pom cricket correspondents. One, exercising a wise discretion, perhaps feared that Ian Botham would indeed prove to be the "boorish bully" so described in his column. The other would have been forced to gorge himself on his pre-match words that there were only three minor problems with the England team: "They can't bat, they can't bowl, and they can't field."

Due reward

Before the first Test I ventured to suggest to the England team's disciplinary assistant manager, Micky Stewart, that he should scrap the traditional pre-match team talk and send his hitherto beleaguered higher-order batsmen to the Queensland Performing Arts Centre instead. There, the Australian Opera Company was putting in a useful didactic performance of Gilbert and Sullivan's *Patience*. The advice, it would appear, was taken to heart.

Little wonder

Few people are upset that the Test players' "dwarf-tossing" competition has been cancelled after protests by the Little People of Australia Association. Though the practice was condemned by the European Parliament 12 months ago as tasteless and undignified, it continues to flourish Down Under. Promoters have even found a variation called dwarf-rolling, where the unfortunate participant is strapped to a skateboard and rolled head first into a set of ten-pins.

Bounced out

I must leap to the defence of Middlesex and former England Test bowler Norman Cowans, who is being sued by the Brisbane cricket club Wests for breach of contract. Cowans flew back to England late last month after playing only one and a half games, giving flood damage to his London home as the reason. Perhaps Norman's precipitate exit may have been related to the off-pitch employment the club saw fit to organize for him — bouncer at the local nightclub.

Pious hope

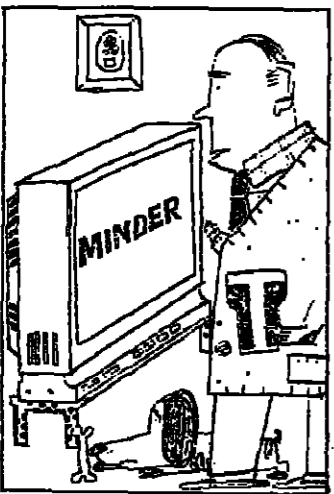
Perhaps Pope John Paul II should make a detour after his visit to the Melbourne Cricket Ground later this month — a jaunt sponsored by a beer company — and take a look at the Junction Oval up the road in St Kilda. The jinxed Oval desperately needs a papal blessing, if not a complete exorcism. A few weeks ago, New South Wales captain Dir Wellman rearranged a female fan's jaw with an inadvertent swipe of his bat when emerging from the dressing room, and last week a huge spotlight crashed on to a photographer's head for no apparent earthly reason.

● **Orright**, as they say here in Oz, I know no one is going to believe this, but there is a rugby player in Hong Kong named Rick Shaw.

Latin leeway

Everyone in Fremantle, battling away for the America's Cup, finds the Italian syndicate led by Aldo Migliaccio *molto simpatico*. A crane dropped on their new yacht and sank it; their Alfa Romeo car ran into a kangaroo and the stunned marsupial hopped off with the keys; and the dirty work needed on their boat is messing up up their Gucci-sponsored designer uniforms. "We all adore them," Andrew ("Spud") Spedding, shore manager of the British challenger, *White Crusader*, told me, adding mischievously, "We know when they are about to tack. They all take a final drag and throw their cigarettes overboard."

BARRY FANTONI



"It's not sure — I think it's the man in the Christmas tree. Don't drink and drive campaign"

Kenneth Minogue opposes the campaign against 'reckless' lending

Like most readers of *The Times* I have endless credit thrust upon me. Banks, credit cards, department stores, even the AA units in offering me apparently limitless cash. Since I am not in deep need, nor much given to buying gold shares from casual acquaintances, these offers are barely through the letterbox before they hit the bin.

Occasionally, however, I glance at the prose, and it makes me cringe: naked appeals to the more infantile impulses to grasp whatever one might think of desiring. What could be more corrupt than a population which really had succeeded in taking the waiting out of wanting? Images of gross usurious exploitation float before the mind. Ought not something to be done about it?

Some people have taken the first step towards doing something about it. They have invented the concept of "reckless lending" by those negligent in considering the borrower's circumstances. As a stick with which to beat usurers, the idea has great promise because it fits neatly into other current forms of moral thinking. It impales lenders at home and abroad and even promises to explain the present condition of the many Third World countries suffering from earlier eras of borrowing.

The short shelf-life of many lenders must dispose them to favour borrowing as an easy way out of trouble; tomorrow's problems are less more manageable than today's, especially if someone else will have to deal with them. By contrast, the average Briton with his eye on a holiday in the West Indies won't be able to visit his sins on his children. He will just be paying long after the tan has faded. Meanwhile, mortgages collapse and credit card debts accumulate. Already debt is sliding over the threshold of public awareness into a public issue.

It was an observation of Lord Melbourne's that nothing so thoroughly frightened him as the phrase "something must be done." In so vague a state of mind, he thought, people usually did foolish things. "Recklessness" in this context is so strikingly vague as potentially to cover any lending that goes wrong. The evil to be corrected would not be fraud, or misrepresentation, but any judgement that turns out to be wrong about the value of the loan to the borrower. One does not have to take Cain's view of brotherhood to conclude that lenders cannot really be saddled with the duty of reckless avoidance and that the entire responsibility for the act of borrowing must rest upon the judgement of the borrower. To think otherwise is to construe borrowers as less than fully responsible human beings.

Yet in sticking firmly to the conviction that every citizen is fully responsible for his or her own actions, we may be putting at risk the very moral standards we seek to sustain. There is a career path in the activity of regulation which runs: invent a concept, define an evil, emphasize those actual fea-



Don't deny us our freedom to be foolish

tures of reality which exhibit the evil, organize a pressure group, and legislation will eventually follow. This activity, occasionally genuinely needed, is effective because it reveals something important about contemporary life. What is it, then, that is revealed in the writings for action over "reckless lending"? We may put the point in the rather quaint language that used to be affected by the deeper sort of playwright earlier in the century: our society is living a lie; we are living a lie because we assume that all our fellow citizens are free, independent spirits capable of taking responsibility for their own lives and for exercising appropriate prudence in the conduct of their lives. If we do make this assumption, then the idea of "reckless lending" has no force, because the reckless lender would be unable to find reckless borrowers.

There's no doubt, then, that the regulator who wishes something done about this evil has truth and reality on his side, because there is obviously a great deal of incompetent self-management about. Any proposed reform would deal with the moral problem of temptation by the legislative device of abolishing the tempting object, in this case instantly available cash. But it is obvious that tempting objects are many, and that the project of abolishing "reckless lending" floats on a sea of similar judgements and projects.

One such judgement is that certain speeches or actions to which exception may be taken are

"provocative". Now the idea of provocation is indeed a useful one in considering what might mitigate the punishment of criminal acts done under intolerable strain, but extended to cover an entire class of people, it implies that they are too infantile to exercise simple and self-control.

Another device for muddying the waters of responsibility is the kind of victimhood constituted by the passive voice. Farmers in both Britain and America have complained that during the prosperous Seventies they were "encouraged" to take out the loans which they now cannot repay. Their situation is grim and unfortunate, but our sympathy must not obscure the fact that in modern societies people are constantly being encouraged and incited to do all sorts of things, many of them highly imprudent, and that the freedom we enjoy depends upon a tough minded population capable of resisting temptation. There is, of course, a moral responsibility not to encourage people to do things they will regret, and some pedlars of credit are in breach of this duty. The breathless unreality of their salesmanship deserves contempt. But there is no doubt where the final responsibility must lie.

Sometimes the very practices of modern society are thought to constitute an impossible temptation. To "reckless lending" there corresponds the reckless dressing of attractive women wearing miniskirts and flaunting décolletage. Islamic countries have solved this

by separating the sexes and garbing women up to the eyeballs; our Western custom has been to rely upon male self-control. A parallel case is the reckless flaunting of goods in supermarkets, putting a heavy strain on those inclined to larceny.

"Recklessness" in these arguments is thus one face of the other side of the coin of freedom: not, indeed, a very attractive face, but one we had better reckon with until we are translated to angelhood. Lacking the capacity for self-management, many people otherwise enthusiastic about freedom begin to demand protection from the evils which usually accompany it. And there are always politicians ready to offer the demanded protection. But in politics, nothing is ever quite what it seems. Compassion in private life is one of the supreme virtues, but compassion in politics is concerned not with people but with classes of people. It is thus often the handmaid of despotism, which is the propensity of the powerful to manage the lives of the powerless.

Beyond a certain point, protecting people by regulating things construed as evil ensnares. The idea that offering temptation to our fellow citizens is reckless is, then, one for which a strong case can be made, both in terms of the moral duty not to exploit failures and in terms of the evident weakness of human beings. But it is in the highest degree a dangerous argument. For if we succumb to it, we shall soon lose the benefits of a society in which we are free to enjoy all manner of marvellous temptations on condition that, unlike the Oscar Wildes of this world, we succumb to them only sometimes, and judiciously.

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Kenneth Minogue, Professor of Political Science at the London School of Economics, is presenting *The New Enlightenment* on Channel 4 (Wednesdays, 8.30).

Peter Brimelow

On the inside looking down

New York

The English sing in pubs, the Irish sing at wakes — and the Jews sing at the SEC (Securities & Exchange Commission). Wall Street was awash with sick jokes this week as the spreading insider trading scandal sent waves of selling through the market.

It is tempting to see this alertness to the ethnicity of those "helping the police with their inquiries" as evidence of crude prejudice pervading American life — except for the fact that most of the jokes seem to be invented by Jews. Similarly, the uproar about the use of inside information may have more to do with misconceived law and regulation than with some sudden collapse of moral standards in the financial community.

Strictly speaking, insider trading is the buying or selling of a stock by those with privileged information about it. They might be directors or officers in the company, or particularly large shareholders. Their activities are legal if the information on which they are acting, such as news about sales or earnings, has been disseminated to the public and if their share transactions are reported to the SEC.

The current insider imbroglio has centred (up to now) on the activities of "risk arbitrageurs" — speculators who specialize in accumulating shares of companies threatened by takeover bids. Often they become major shareholders, initiate takeovers themselves, and even intervene in the management of their companies.

Arbitrageurs are intensely unpopular with many important people. Incumbent managements have been horrified at the destruction of whole ways of comfortable corporate life following the recent takeovers of companies that were household names in America, among them Gulf Oil and the TWA airline. American journalists and politicians, who because of this country's absence of a formal class structure tend to convince themselves that they constitute the elite, are distressed by the successful arbitrageurs' rapid accumulation of riches.

For example, Ivan F. Boesky, whose apprehension by the SEC caused this latest splash, was the son of an immigrant delicatessen owner in Detroit. He graduated from the obscure Detroit College of Law and came to New York because no big Detroit law firm would hire him. In 20 years on Wall Street, he amassed a net worth (assets less debt) estimated at \$250 million.

It is less clear that shareholders dislike arbitrageurs. Takeover offers frequently represent an opportunity for them to sell out at prices substantially above those

prevailing in the market. This may be inconvenient for company managers, but it's not the company managers who own the stock. Aside from an economic standpoint — whatever the objections raised in an article on this page yesterday — takeovers are a way in which capital is shifted out of unprofitable and into profitable areas, regardless of how much of it passes through an asset-stripper's bank account. Otherwise company managers have a marked tendency to sit on cash reserves, or to spend them on empire building. Unfortunately for arbitrageurs, and for the American capital markets in general, securities legislation here was written after the 1929 Great Crash in the belief that it had been caused by "manipulation". This view was about as sophisticated as the simultaneous conclusion by a congressional committee that the First World War was caused by "munition kings".

But the SEC, a ponderous legal bureaucracy, has been set up to enforce "fairness". Its definition is so rigorous that it has even argued that an investor landing at an airport, who saw through the plane window that a factory was on fire, should not rush to the phone to sell his stock until the information had been fully disseminated.

The restrictions on insider trading reflect a fundamentally non-economic theory of information. In the grossly idealized case above, for example, critics would argue that SEC regulation has reduced the incentive for investors both to find out about fires and to sound the alarm by selling stock (which would effectively put the information into the market place). It has interfered with the efficiency of the market, and, since the profit opportunities for those actually possessing inside information are much greater when information is suppressed, it has paradoxically created a greater incentive for lawbreaking, just as Prohibition made a bonanza out of illegal liquor sales.

Boesky, of course, was also actually bringing an investment banker to break his employer's confidence. But here also there is a balancing mechanism in the shape of self-regulation stemming from the employer's self-interest, not to mention the law of fraud.

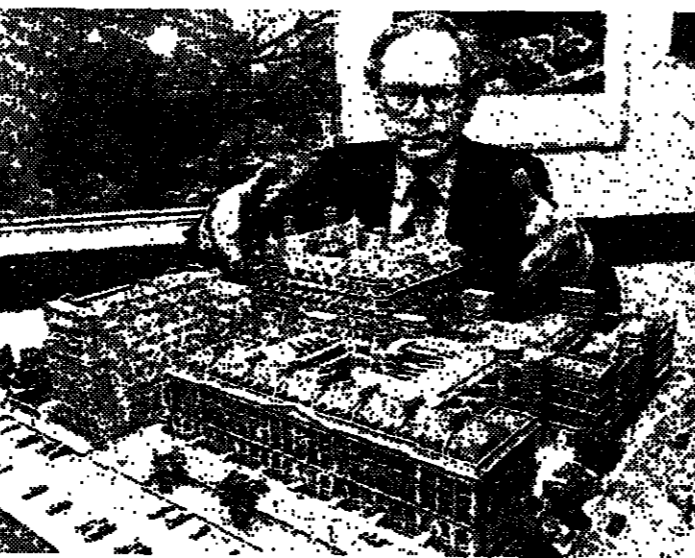
Ironically, there are investment advisory services that have been able to beat the market by following the legal insider trading reported to the SEC. Their loudly expressed view is that the SEC should stop arresting arbitrageurs — and try harder to make them file on time.

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The author is a senior editor of *Forbes Magazine*.

Clive Aslet charts the blundering record of the government's heritage guardians

A listed quango due for chop



Consultant architect William Whitfield with a model of the Richmond Terrace project: a grand design flawed by PSA interior destruction

British Museum. Emergency repairs are sporadically carried out but no overall strategy has been devised to rescue the surviving buildings.

● The former Royal Ordnance Depot, Weedon, near Northampton: This "another place that is stunningly impressive", says Ken Powell of Save Britain's Heritage. It was built in 1803, at the height of the Napoleonic Wars, on a site that was intended to be the very centre of England. Had the French invaded, George III would have been rushed there and housed in a royal pavilion, while soldiers from the barracks could have been hurried by canal to whichever corner of war needed them most.

The compound also contained a series of four pairs of stunning warehouse-like magazine buildings, alternating with single bay blast houses. Military activity ceased in 1965. Shamefully, 20 acres of the site were sold by the old Ministry of Works five years later. Despite listing, the royal pavilion and barracks were demolished and replaced by suburban houses. The remarkable magazine buildings survived but were allowed to fall into such a state of decay that a report commissioned in 1982 stated that repairs would cost more than £1 million. In 1984 they were sold by the PSA to a property developer and the site has been put back on the market for six times what he paid. Neither the PSA's presumed

duty to protect the heritage it owns for the nation, nor that of getting the best price for its assets, would seem to have been fulfilled.

● Haslar Naval Hospital, Portsmouth: Originally the Royal Naval Hospital for Sick Sailors, it is, or was, a very handsome listed Georgian hospital in the form of a U with ends facing the Solent. The main entrance faced the courtyard. It has a pedimented centrepiece derived from Palladio, with tall arched windows linked by a stone surround. In its day the largest brick structure in Europe, it was constructed in 1746-61 by Theodore Jacobsen, the architect of the now demolished Foundling Hospital in London and of Trinity College, Dublin.

When it came to extending and modernizing the hospital, the PSA and its architects had the unspeakable idea of building a new wing right across the mouth of the courtyard. The new block is fussy, small scale, antagonistic in its materials, devoid of geometry and decency. Only the symmetry of the original is respected.

● Richmond Terrace, Whitehall: The terrace, at right angles to Whitehall with an end opposite the Cenotaph, is "an extremely rare example of uniform Georgian terrace design and a survival of Whitehall's domestic history," according to Dan Cruikshank, an expert on Georgian London. Designed by Thomas Chawner in 1819, it was used during the

Second World War by, among others, Lord Mountbatten as offices for Special Operations. But after 1945 it was blighted by government indecision and left to decay until a campaign by the national conservation societies forced an inquiry in 1972. It was agreed that the building would be restored, keeping the rooms on the front with their handsome details. But Cruikshank comments: "All the front rooms were removed through a series of tragic blunders."

The facade is now being restored impeccably, under consultant architects, but behind the facade the terrace has been reconstructed to a new plan. The character and historic integrity of the old rooms with their uneven walls has been destroyed. Some period details will be replaced, having been preserved in a PSA store. Others, such as the best chimney-piece, were smashed while still in the building.

The PSA is capable of carrying out first-class work, particularly when under the supervision of the small but expert staff at the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England (English Heritage) or an outside consultant architect. The £17 million restoration of Fort George, Inverness, built after Culloden, is admirable. Special projects of this kind, however, are few, and the vast majority of buildings receive no such expert attention. Buildings not in the public eye are left to rot through lack of maintenance; too often, repair and conversion work is undertaken without consultation.

This is possible because of the system by which government buildings are exempted from the usual systems of planning consent and listed building control. The Crown is above the law.

At the Royal Society of Arts conference last month, Michael Heseltine, a former Environment Secretary, advocated privatizing sections of the PSA and returning its management to the departments that occupy them. This has already happened with British embassies abroad, now run directly by the Foreign Office.

Whereas museums and galleries have expert curators capable of taking decisions on historic buildings, government departments do not. But there is every argument for them to employ outside architects. A private architect worth his salt will fight a philistine client until he accepts an architecturally plausible solution. The PSA, on the other hand, is constantly to be found in a supine pose, agreeing to — and perpetrating — travesties.

An independent architect has the final weapon of resignation. The PSA can never resign. It may be time it is sacked.

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Clive Aslet is architectural editor of *Country Life*.

Philip Howard

Overwhelmed by history

How does one write history these days? It was so much easier when the world was simpler. And Bela died, and Jobah the son of Zerah of Bozrah reigned in his stead. Herodotus, Father of History, Father of Lies, simply packed his reporter's tablets and went off on a jaunt to gossip about crocodiles with Egyptian priests, or sketch the topography of Babylon.

In the days when history was supposed to run on royal railway lines, as in Sellar and Yeatman, it was simplified into Good Things and Bad Things. Alfred had a very interesting wife called Lady Winifred (The Lady of the Lake), who was always clothed in the same white frock, and used to go bathing with Sir Launcelet and was thus a Bad Queen.

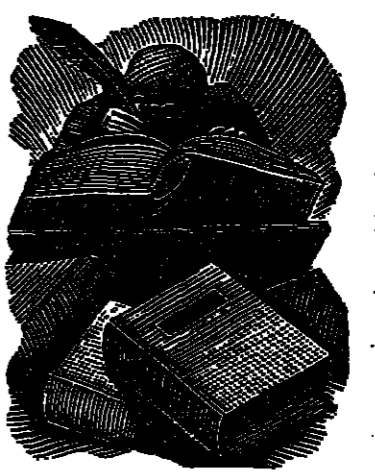
Gibbon, Macaulay and our other giant historians dealt with vast and complex matters but gave them a compulsive course that made their histories hard to put down even for the general reader, though Gibbon does eventually run out of steam.

It is not that history is not being written. More of it pours off the academic presses in a year than used to be published in a century. One trouble with history today is that it has become increasingly specialized and esoteric for the general reader: for example, *Early Victorian Water Engineers* by Geoffrey Morse Binnie, published in 1981. Or how about *Millennium Charisma Among the Pathans* (Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1976)? Or care for a bite at *Cannibalism and the Common Law*, by A.W. Brian Simpson, published earlier this year? All good stuff, no doubt, for fans of the subject. But the general reader would need to be omnivorous or very bored to tackle them.

There are few books for the intelligent general reader in the desert that stretches between romances for visitors to Madame Tussauds and academic work for the specialist. Are there any?

Another trouble is that prosopography and the other modern historiographic techniques: intended to make history more scientific, tend to make dry reading, except from the pen of a genius like Ronnie Syme or Braudel. I suspect that to write big history you need a bee in your bonnet rather than academic objectivity: Macaulay, Gibbon, and Tacitus certainly had been bees in their bonnets. If this is true, why are Marxist historians and other modern historicists,

who certainly have bees in their bonnets and a Procrustean attitude to their material, unreadable? But the principal trouble with trying to write history today is that there is too much of it. The world is no longer run by a handful of rulers in Western Europe. And there is more to history these days than who beat whom in which battle, and who succeeded whom on what throne — there always was, but it was deemed irrelevant.



Chris Wormell

International politics and economics from all around the world are vital, no doubt. But they are hard to turn into compulsive reading. And that is why people who used to read history have turned to the comparatively new literary genres of biography and historical fiction. The life of one person, and the fictional re-creation of past time, are more alive than international treaties, and more fun to read. They may also be more truthful.

This confusion about what is important in the long eye of history also affects us hod-carriers of history, the journeymen. *The Times* is supposed to be the paper of record, but which of our records will be considered significant by a historian in a century's time? Most of the things we work ourselves into a sweat of excitement about, whether Fudge succeeds Mudge as leader of the Neanderthal Party, what the Budget will contain, the Salt talks, will seem as remote as and less interesting than the laws of Lycurgus in Ancient Sparta 30 centuries ago. Let us hope that the cataclysm of events to write our history, has a sympathetic imagination to see us as we are, and make allowances.



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CRIME AND PUNISHMENT

With the offer by Myra Hindley to help the police to find the bodies of missing children who may be buried on Saddleworth Moor, the Moors murderers have returned to television news bulletins and the front pages of popular newspapers. Such fascination with crimes which, however terrible, took place over twenty years ago, undoubtedly has its morbid side. To dwell on cruelty and horror is one of the less attractive aspects of human nature, but it must be admitted that it also one of its strongest and most permanent features.

There is also, however, a cathartic element in it. One reason for the sharpness of the public reaction to any reports involving Hindley and Brady is that it reminds us of the extraordinary viciousness of their crimes. To torture and kill people for pleasure is vile in the extreme but, alas, it is not unique. The American police have even invented the term "recreational murders" to describe it. But to torture and kill children, and to record their sufferings for later enjoyment, reveals a depravity which people find beyond belief. It is natural both that they should be alert to any news involving such crimes and that they should want to be reassured that the criminals have been fittingly punished.

In this regard, the greater

interest shown by the public in Myra Hindley over Ian Brady is instructive. Hindley's participation in their joint crime strikes people as even more alarming than Brady's since cruelty to children seems a more profound violation of a woman's nature than of a man's. It is certain that she has proved the stronger of the two. He has "cracked" in prison whereas she has maintained a lively interest in life, has found friends among the prisoners, and has assisted Lord Longford and others to conduct a campaign for her release.

It is, of course, that campaign which accounts for the public's nervous suspicion that any new development in the case might indicate her parole. Her willingness to help the police on this occasion is thus interpreted as a cynical move either to avoid prosecution for any further murders that come to light, or to convince the Parole Board, as she has convinced Lord Longford, that she is a changed woman, deeply religious and fit to enter normal life again.

She may, indeed, have changed in many ways. It would be remarkable if she had not changed after twenty years in which she was able to reflect upon her past crimes. But the state of psychiatric medicine is still sufficiently primitive for society to be unable to rely on the assur-

ances of psychiatrists that someone has entirely recovered from a dangerous mental state and that they will never suffer a relapse. Behaviour in prison is not a very reliable guide to behaviour outside. And when the criminal has committed acts as perverted as the crimes of which Hindley was guilty, we cannot risk a repetition. The safety of the public requires her continued detention.

That practical consideration is not, however, the sole one. Hindley should remain in prison because she has committed crimes which, in the absence of the death penalty, deserve the exemplary punishment of life imprisonment. That is so even if — as Christians must hope and believe possible — she has genuinely repented of her sins and found some relief from her guilt in turning to God. One symptom of genuine repentance, indeed, would be her acceptance of the justice of her punishment and a willingness to hope for God's grace in the life and work of prison.

To ask that of Hindley, Lord Longford notwithstanding, is not to refuse to forgive her as God instructs us to forgive repentant sinners. It is to recognise that by her acts she has rightly forfeited freedom in the everyday meaning of the word and can now only hope for that spiritual freedom which God alone can bestow.

MR GANDHI'S TAR BABY

Tamil guerrilla leaders this week rejected for the second time in a month the Sri Lankan government's latest terms for settling the island's ethnic conflict. The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, the largest of the guerrilla organizations, announced instead that they would set up an independent state in northern Sri Lanka on January 1.

The proposed peace terms granted the Tamils significant autonomy within newly created provincial councils. But on the question of linking the northern and eastern provinces to create a Tamil enclave, the best on offer was a hint that the government in Colombo would, within 18 months of an agreement being concluded, appoint a boundaries commission to investigate the matter.

For the five guerrilla organizations who were asked to give up their fight for an independent Eelam this was not enough. For President Jayawardene, who already faces strong political and religious opposition to his devolution proposals, it would have been difficult to offer more.

The impasse will have immediate repercussions in Sri Lanka. Now that the attempt to reach a political compromise has failed, President Jayawardene will be under

great pressure to try a military solution. Whenever the political process has faltered in the past, the army has been quick to step in. And when it does, retaliation from the guerrillas is swift. This means that the violence is now likely to escalate.

Much will depend on how Mr Rajiv Gandhi's government in India responds. Previously it has veered between support for and criticism of the Sri Lankan government's position. But its most recent public pronouncements commit it to supporting the Colombo government. India recommended acceptance of the peace terms to the guerrillas and may be displeased by their rejection.

If that is so, it is possible that Mr Gandhi may proceed to expel them from their sanctuaries in south India. He intimated such action when the Madras police took action against guerrilla establishments earlier this month. The effect of such action will, however, be limited. Most of the guerrillas have anticipated just such action and are well prepared. Yet it will limit India's influence on any solution to the Tamil question and give the impression that she is washing her hands of the Sri Lankan crisis.

There are those who would

welcome such a solution on the grounds that it is an internal problem for Sri Lanka and the two sides might be better left to slug it out between themselves.

Yet India may be the only party which could, by virtue of the capital it has built up with both sides, eventually help to formulate an acceptable solution. For this reason it might be better for India to regard the breakdown of the talks as a pause in the peace process, rather than a signal to extricate itself from the Sri Lankan tangle.

If India were to encourage the Colombo government to offer a partition of the eastern province so as to unite the Tamil sector with the north and if at the same time it were to exert pressure on the guerrillas to accept this partial concession, the gap between the two sides might just be bridged.

It will not be easy, however. It will mean handing the guerrillas with an ingenuity that has hitherto been lacking. It will mean asking President Jayawardene to accept greater political risks than he has so far taken. It might, eventually, pay off. But since the risks and the constitutional responsibilities are President Jayawardene's, his must be the final decision on its practicality.

FOURTH LEADER

You can get almost anything by telephone these days, from gardening advice to Dial-A-Dish in several senses of dish, if you can only connect. But it has been left to the Italians to introduce English lessons by telephone. The Italian telephone company SIP has started to teach English on two direct lines. The beginners' and advanced courses, entitled "Yes" and "Hello," consist of 150 three-minute lessons for 360 lire or about 30p each. The service has been launched in Rome, Milan, Turin, Genoa, and Florence, and will soon be extended to other cities. The accompanying text book, which has just gone on sale, gives as Lesson No 1: a telephone conversation.

This is surprising news for those of us who thought of Italian telephones as the equivalent of our Space Invader machines. By their location in the most crowded corner of the bistro, by the treasure hunt to procure the necessary tokens, by the exotic humming and ping noises they make, they have seemed primarily a test of skill rather than a means of communication.

But if they are going to start giving English lessons, we doubt whether they are prudent to begin with the most sophisticated and ambiguous of English dialects. Telephone English is different from face-to-face conversation because it lacks the non-verbal aids and modifiers: nods and winks, raised eyebrows, and for Ital-

ians the rapidly reciprocating hand like a man drying lettuce. People who plunge straight into an exercise in Telephone English without stating their names clearly are assuming that we can see them or can immediately recognize their voices which is self-important.

At a still more advanced level, Italian pupils in Telephone English will need to be taught how to deal with the inhuman voice of the answering machine, with its whimsical or crisp instructions that can turn articulate gasbags into stuttering incoherents. There is an answering machine message in California that goes: "You have reached the...family. What you hear is the barking of our killer Doberman Pinscher. Wolf. Please leave a message after the tone." The Telephone English speaker who comes up with a snappy reply to that message is marked Alpha Plus.

The management psychologists, who have made British Airways staff so volubly polite that you want to strangle them, have just started to get a grip on the telephone techniques of big companies. If you ring one of them these days, the operator will say sweetly: "Good morning, Sunbeam Extraction from Cucumbers International. Thank you for calling. We will play some music while you are waiting to be connected." This is Black Belt Telephone English technique. It at once puts the caller at a disadvantage, especially if he has telephoned to complain,

and does not want to be thanked for anything.

At some stage in the course the Italian learners in the telephone box are going to have to be initiated in the Chicken Game, first-to-the-phone-is-a-wimp, of Telephone English. This is played mainly by secretaries and assistants, and its conventions are as complex as chess. The trick is to be the last to get one's boss on the line, so that it is the other party who has to do the waiting. Status and machismo depend upon not being the one who is hanging on, and the subtleties used to get the other main speaker to commit himself to the 'phone first are as beautifully intricate as the grammar of shall and will.

Learners of Telephone English will also need to master the Thurber unseen technique: "Well, if I called the wrong number, why did you answer the 'phone?" At A-level they will tackle such problems as what to reply when telephoned at two o'clock in the morning with the cheerful remark: "I do hope I haven't disturbed you." Answer: the text book reply is: "Oh, no; that's quite all right. I had to get up to answer the telephone anyway."

Teaching English by the telephone is a commendable and let us hope profitable project. The mistake is to start with the most difficult of all sorts of English. Italians would be wiser to imitate us and spend the first few years learning simpler types of English, such as Beowulf and the Fourth Leader.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Crisis for destitute homeless

From Dr Malcolm P. I. Weller
Sir, I should like to draw attention to the plight of the mentally ill deprived of services. Mr John Mowbray, QC, is not quite correct in suggesting (November 10) that Banstead was the first large mental hospital to close. An earlier case was St Wulstan's, a specialist rehabilitation hospital at Malvern, from which the patients were removed last January.

In both cases the hospitals to which the patients were transferred had themselves been designated for closure. Horton, Banstead's successor, has now been reprieved, but St Wulstan's successor, Powick Hospital, at Worcester, is energetically planning for closure in 1988.

Mr Mowbray and others use the term "released" for the compulsory ejection of voluntary patients who have ceased to spend many years in a protected hospital environment. Of the long-stay patients at Friern Hospital, designated for closure soon, less than 2 per cent are detained compulsorily and many of these are so detained under Home Office directives.

In assessing the numbers requiring extensive care, so-called high-dependency patients, it is not sufficient to plan for the population of long-stay patients in hospitals. It is also necessary to provide for those equally disabled unfortunates who are not in hospital but whose needs are either barely served by existing arrangements or not at all.

Last Christmas my son and I found actively hallucinating destitute men who had never received any treatment, many not claiming any benefits of any kind. These men, who are being "cared for" in the "community", were without friends or family support and generally without dental or medical care. One man with tuberculosis was sleeping under the arches of Charing Cross station on Christmas Eve without his medication.

It is this group on whom our planning should focus as a matter of the most pressing priority.

The deliberate closure last year of Camberwell Reception Centre, the largest in Europe, where one in five had tuberculosis and 80 per cent slept rough, has been unhelpful, as has the move to redesignate Bruce House as a hotel and prevent open access, at a time when more than 2,000 common lodging houses have recently closed in London.

The housing by local authorities, with a statutory obligation to the vulnerable homeless, of a mere 4,000 out of the 70,000 long-stay patients discharged since 1954 does little to inspire confidence. Yours faithfully,
M. WELLER (Vice-Chairman, North East Thames Regional Committee for Hospital Medical Services),
Friern Hospital,
Friern Barnet Road, N11,
November 20.

Cold comfort?

From the Rev Edward Underhill
Sir, "Two million children face a jumble sale Christmas", lamented the Leader of the Opposition in the debate on the Queen's speech (report, November 13). They will not be able to "wear the clothes that other children enjoy", he said. But might this be no bad thing? Don't most children — even in this inner-city parish — have too many and too expensive clothes? It would be better if we all were more frugal and sensible in our buying of clothes; we would then not only have better quality clothing, but also would have spare cash to give to those in other places that have no clothes.

And, Sir, what is wrong with jumble sale or, at least, Oxfam tailoring? Recently my local Oxfam shop has provided me with two shooting suits (£7 each) and a 22oz weight hacking jacket which is, literally, the envy of the discerning wherever and whenever it is worn. Yours sincerely,
EDWARD UNDERHILL,
St George's Vicarage,
327 Durham Road,
Gateshead, Tyne and Wear.

Funding the arts

From the Chairman of the Trustees of the National Portrait Gallery
Sir, You report (November 18) the Government's financial provisions for the arts for next year, which sadly do not take seriously into account one of the most urgent and long-standing needs, namely additional space for the National Portrait Gallery, long recognised by government as a top priority.

In recent years the gallery's collecting policy has been widened to include major contemporary figures. This has inevitably intensified the need for more gallery space, which was already acute. The work of living artists, which we have tried so hard to encourage, and the inspirational images of the makers of modern

British history, cannot be displayed for the benefit of our ever-increasing numbers of visitors.

This situation is ironic, since we have in recent years ceded two sites to the National Gallery for its expansion. It could be solved quite simply. The adjacent site of the former dental hospital in Leicester Square is on offer to the gallery for the display of our twentieth-century collections.

This golden opportunity, which offers the gallery, Leicester Square and the nation a much-needed extension, cannot be allowed to pass. The gallery has only until November 28 to find the funds before the site is due to be sold on the open market. Yours faithfully,
KENYON,
Chairman of the Trustees,
National Portrait Gallery,
St Martin's Place, WC2.

Root problem

From the Leader of the Westminster City Council
Sir, I read with mounting horror Bernard Levin's account (November 17) of how my city council had apparently dithered for nearly two years while some of his friends in Carlton Hill, NW8, had unsuccessfully attempted to resolve a longstanding problem concerning the roots of a weeping willow tree in their front garden.

"What will you do?", Mr Levin asked me. I sought the facts. These confirmed the complaint in all but minor detail. Now we took immediate action. At 11 a.m. the following day permission was granted for the roots of the offending tree to be pruned. At the same time, officers were instructed to formally apologise for the delays and inspect the property with the local councillor before the end of this week.

A day later we decided to rationalise and redefine the duties of our tree officer to prevent a repetition of this complaint. Subsequently, new working guide-

lines and procedures are being drawn up and implemented.

Clearly, however, householders and environment-conscious councils such as Westminster are inevitable. Naturally, I am sorry when we do not get it right every time; but we will not stop trying. Yours faithfully,
SHIRLEY PORTER, Leader,
Westminster City Council,
Westminster City Hall,
Victoria Street, SW1,
November 20.

From Mr M. C. Hyde
Sir, "Woodmen, spare that tree" is an injunction which any sensible citizen would ignore if it threatened his health and home, particularly if the offending tree was not protected by a preservation order. Instead of using your space to petition Lady Porter, Leader of Westminster City Council, Bernard Levin should have castigated his friends for a singular lack of common sense.

Yours truly,
M. C. HYDE,
6a West Grove,
Greenwich, SE10,
November 18.

Grant of arms

From Arundel Herald of Arms Extraordinary
Sir, My friend Robert Smith (November 12) has misdirected himself and my colleague, Somerset Herald (October 24) was correct.

The English Kings of Arms are authorised by the Sovereign, in their letters patent of appointment, to grant arms to "eminent men subject to the authority of the Earl Marshal first obtained" ("men" embrace women and corporate bodies).

Eminence is basically a matter of common sense. In Tudor times one finds the phrase "a worthy man of good repute and adequate substance"; not a bad definition, which would rule out a millionaire if he did not measure up to the other criteria.

It is erroneous to believe that the possession of the lordship of a

manor automatically carried with it a coat of arms. Manors go back to Saxon times, well before coats of arms were invented. In the earliest times and for many centuries, they were the lowest level of administrative and judicial authority. Today the rights and duties of lords of manors are no more than a vestigial echo of their past importance.

Mr Smith also shows a woeful lack of knowledge of the wording of letters patent granting armorial bearings. The object of describing a grantee of arms in the letters patent is to distinguish one Smith from another Smith with sufficient precision to avoid confusion between the two. Yours faithfully,
RODNEY DENNYS,
Arundel Herald of Arms Extraordinary,
College of Arms,
Queen Victoria Street, EC4,
November 13.

Over the top

From Mr Hugh Williams
Sir, I read with mixed feelings your report (November 15) about the introduction of surtitles at Covent Garden. I myself had encountered them for the first time only a few days previously during Glyndebourne's splendid touring production of *Simon Boccanegra* at the Palace Theatre, Manchester. My view was that although they aided comprehension, they undermined appreciation and spoiled the total impact of a successful performance.

However, it also occurred to me that it would be much better if the

Putting atom of truth in focus

From Professor M. J. Seaton, FRS
Sir, In an article of November 15 the Canon of Windsor, Derek Stanesby, claims that contemporary science has characteristics which lead us immediately to the realm of religion and theology. Previous articles in your religious affairs column have advanced similar claims and I think that the time has come for them to be challenged.

The canon's arguments are concerned with the "new" physics and in particular with quantum theory which was developed during the first 30 years of the present century and is by now no more new than "modern" art is modern. The theory is about 50 billion billion in every cubic centimetre of atmospheric air. Since atoms have sizes very different from those of everyday objects it is not surprising that the concepts required to describe them are not everyday concepts.

Quantum theory provides a mathematical description of atomic phenomena which is quite remarkably powerful, a point which the theologians often fail to appreciate. Far from being narrow and esoteric, of interest only to the specialist, the theory is of great power in explaining the world about us: why oxygen is a gas and iron a metal; how atoms combine to form molecules, the properties of chemical compounds; the mechanisms by which light is emitted and absorbed by matter. A large part of modern technology is applied quantum theory.

The Canon of Windsor claims that quantum theory contains a mystical element which brings man "to his knees once again". I find three dictionary definitions of the word "mystical": having a spiritual character by virtue of a union with god; of dark import; and connected with occult rites. None of them, to my knowledge, has any relevance to quantum theory, and I see no reason why one of the greatest intellectual achievements of humankind should bring us to our knees.

There remains the "slippery subject of truth", to which the canon refers. I don't think that most scientists find it so slippery. There is a great deal which we know and a lot more which we don't. That is what makes science so exciting. Yours truly,
M. J. SEATON,
University College London,
Department of Physics and Astronomy,
Gower Street, WC1,
November 16.

Aids precaution

From the Bishop of Brentwood
Sir, In your news report on Aids (November 18, later editions) you mention that the priests of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Brentwood have been advised to use a disposable spoon when giving communion to Aids sufferers. You omitted to say that this advice only concerned those in hospital, when there was barrier nursing, and would only be done in consultation with the hospital authorities.

As regards communion in church and drinking from the chalice, medical evidence overwhelmingly states that there is no danger of contracting Aids when receiving communion from the shared cup.

In the present situation it is important that we show very real compassion and above all that we help to overcome misunderstandings and fears. Yours faithfully,
THOMAS McMAHON,
Bishop's House,
Stock, Ingatestone,
Essex.

English in schools

From Mr H. Cunningham
Sir, In assuring his audience that there is no intention of reintroducing traditional grammar into the English curriculum Mr Baker missed the point (report, November 8). It is not its complexity that is at fault; it is the fact that it has no effect on the way a youngster writes.

Teachers who years ago had to administer it in weekly doses were well aware that whatever else they were doing they were not helping their pupils to write a more vigorous or even a more "correct" prose. Their views were confirmed by research carried out in the 1960s, and by the work of linguistic scientists.

In 1964 the report of the Secondary School Examinations Council on the examining of English language referred to traditionally presented rules of grammar which have been artificially imposed upon the language. They have had little relevance to usage at any past time and they have even less to contemporary usage.

If there has been a decline in standards of literacy I suppose it is natural to cast around for such an attractively easy explanation. It will be interesting to see the terms of reference of the new committee. "What pupils should be taught about (my italics) the language" has an ominous sound. It might suggest a return to English through exercises. Hundreds of schoolchildren have wasted hundreds of hours in turning direct speech into indirect or in scanning a passage in search of a zeugma, proceedings of the same level of futility as paraphrasing Hamlet's soliloquies. Is there really a need for yet another inquiry? Yours faithfully,
H. H. WILLIAMS,
Head of Broadcasting, North-West, BBC,
New Broadcasting House,
Oxford Road, Manchester.

ON THIS DAY

NOVEMBER 22 1922

The first scheduled airline flight, according to Air Facts and Feats (Guinness Superlatives) was from London to Paris on August 25, 1919, landing at Paris two and a half hours after take-off in bad weather. The pilot was employed by Air Transport and Travel Ltd, the first British airline company to be registered, in 1916. The national airline, Imperial Airways, was formed on April 1, 1924.

COMFORT IN AIR TRAVEL

THE VENTILATION DIFFICULTY.

OFFICIAL PAMPHLET.

(By Our Aeronautical Correspondent)

All those who have travelled by aeroplane have a story to tell of noise, of frustrated attempts at conversation, and of the smell of dope and petrol. Some can relate disturbing experiences of air-sickness. Others, contrast, the exhilaration of travelling in an open machine with the very different sensations received in flying in an enclosed saloon. Still others declare that the sense of security derived from the walls and ceiling of a cabin and a seat in a comfortable lounge chair outweigh all the "uplift" and inspiration that is to be got from facing the feroz, fresh air-stream in an open aeroplane. The differences are the differences that separate ocean travel in a liner and in a destroyer. From the point of view of appreciation they appear to be physical and psychological. The Air Council has discussed these matters and several others, "for the information of all concerned" in an admirable pamphlet entitled "Medical Notes in Connection with Commercial Aircraft".

It is pointed out that an aerial journey to-day, for the unaccustomed passenger, abnormally stimulates all his senses. The abnormal stimuli affect the physiological processes in many ways which are not within the scope of the present memorandum to describe; but in general terms it may be said that they are undesirable and predispose to air-sickness, drumming in the ears, head-ache, and other forms of discomfort complained of by passengers. The problems of passenger air-travel are grouped thus: Ventilation, heating, odours; noise and vibration; sickness in the air; and general comfort.

QUESTION OF VENTILATION

The authors of the pamphlet point out that the adequate ventilation of the cabins in commercial aeroplanes presents considerable difficulties. The reasons for this are that the cubic space that can be afforded to each passenger is naturally very limited, and the speed at which the cabin has to be carried through the air is such that even quite small openings are sufficient to introduce air at velocity that is appreciated as a draught. The authors are for the introduction of fresh air from above and in the fore part of the cabin. In certain cases, they say, it might be found desirable to extend the inlet inside the saloon in the shape of a gauze trunk along the whole length of the passenger cabin. Some interesting deductions are made from systems in use in sleeping-cars on American railroads.

The heating of heavier-than-air craft is still a matter of experiment, and the system of fitting a high-pressure boiler to the exhaust pipes is recommended for consideration. Discussing noise and vibration and the use of silencers, the authors state that the problems involved are not impossible to solve, and indeed they are hopeful — but they require much work, and if this is carried out purely from the physical side, without due consideration for the psychology of the individual, errors will creep in. Sickness in the air is here traced to ventilation, the proximity of travellers to windows, the lateral and fore and aft movements of the aeroplane, and "a certain amount of apprehension" — the last is what is usually called stage fright, a symptom commonly known at the front as "wind-up". Certain drugs are suggested as preventives, but the real cure is claimed to lie in an improvement in travelling conditions. Hay-box cookers are recommended for use in the culinary department. All these are matters of first-class importance in tackling the tough problem of making flying pay.

Phrase or fable?

From Dr Richard West
Sir, Your correspondent Mr J. N. Hare (November 7) speculates about the phrase, "Cheer up for Chatham, wooden legs are cheap."

In the nineteenth century artificial legs were in fact rather expensive. In 1862 the Reverend Charles H. Spurgeon offered to preach to raise money for St George's Hospital on condition that a certain patient was fitted with a cork leg.

The offer was accepted and the patient fitted with the leg at a cost of £10. However, it was not paid for, as Mr Spurgeon then said he would only preach if the hospital also met the costs of hiring St James Hall, which the governors were not prepared to do. I am,
Yours sincerely,
RICHARD WEST, Dean,
St George's Hospital Medical School,
Cranmer Terrace,
Tooting, SW17,
November 8.

Brian James casts his eye over a conflict of drama, humour and tears No heroes in the Theatre of the Snide

Suggesting that Mr Robert Maxwell, the emigre publisher long in love with the British Way of Life, had tried to bribe his way to a peerage has cost the satirical magazine *Private Eye* nearly £250,000.

After deliberating for five hours yesterday, working their way through a set of *Lord's Guide to verdict-making* provided by Mr Justice Brown (was the article defamatory? If No, proceed no further. If Yes, go to...), a jury of six men and six women awarded Mr Maxwell a total of £55,000 in damages for two articles in which he was libelled. *Private Eye* must also pay all the costs of the 15-day hearing, estimated at £195,000.

Mr Maxwell naturally was jubilant. He would donate the £55,000, he said, to charities for children and also to help combat Aids. He seemed enormously pleased with his follow-up remark: "The money coming from one infected person will go to help cure another". He repeated this several times.

He also said that he felt the decision would help all those thousands of people, their families and friends, who had "suffered from being targeted by these reckless attacks". He had proved, he said, that *Private Eye* neither "checked its facts, nor had the guts to apologise when it was wrong. They were peddlars of lies and fifth". Good knockabout stuff.

Mr Richard Ingrams, the magazine's editor at the time of the article and still its chairman, has shown himself fairly adept at this sort of stuff but was not unaccountably not anxious to say anything. He was said to be reflecting amid other calmer words in his wife's bookshop along the Thames at Wallingford.

But it was entirely in keeping with the often bizarre atmosphere of this case that the comedian Mr Peter Cook, the leading shareholder of *Eye*, occupied part of the waiting hours giving pressmen two interviews - he couldn't stay to the end, he explained, being off to see his mum, but he could say now what his thoughts would be if his side won. Or again if they lost. Solemnly, it was all duly noted.



The protagonists: Mr Richard Ingrams, former editor of *Private Eye*, left, and Mr Robert Maxwell, the plaintiff.

For a win, Mr Cook could be reported as being "rather more pleased than Punch". Against a defeat his words could be reported as follows: "We shall now bring out a bumper edition to pay for it... and I don't think we are in any more danger now than we have been for 25 years."

Could the *Eye* stand damages like this, even with one third of its £1 million-plus income set aside for libel cases? "Of course. But I still don't see what we said wrong."

What *Private Eye* said wrongly, of course, was that Mr Maxwell had paid for several foreign trips for the Labour leader, Mr Neil Kinnock, in the hope it would gain him preference on Labour lists for a peerage.

But the wicked skill in the canard was, of course, that it would have been widely believed. Mr Maxwell, a man who didn't so much try to join the establishment as redesign himself to merge into it, has shown such a love of British institutions (he bought himself a football club, several na-



Maxwell Family Album" - were aimed at his head during the three-week run in Court 11 of this epic production in the Theatre of the Snide.

On many days, it was standing room only and those standing included stars of the legitimate theatre like Mr Cook, and of the media circus like Mr Peter Jay and a hardy scribble of Fleet Street editors.

There was conflict, the delicious lure of a dislike-laden encounter between two irreconcilably unpleasant men. Early on, Mr Maxwell filled the witness box with his bulk and boom, led step by immod-

est step through his self-made life. Only Mr Ingrams's sniping acolytes looked underwhelmed by the recital.

During Mr Ingrams's own long haul giving evidence, Mr Maxwell was seldom absent: he sat half-smiling, with those dark brooding eyes fixed on his enemy, looking like nothing so much as a well-fed python wondering whether he could after all manage to ingest another whole goat.

There was drama. Especially on that day when Mr Maxwell was summoned from his seat by news of the disaster to one of the helicopters that his companies own: he flew at once to Scotland to launch an appeal. This was Maxwell the actionman, an authentic real-life hero who, the Jury learned, had been awarded the Military Cross and commissioned in the field.

There was humour - some of it intentional as when Justice Mr Brown, reacting to the plea that Mr Ingrams was tired from his stint in the witness box, drawled: "Oh, but I looked him up in *Who's*

Who and there he gives his recreation as 'bitching', some perhaps less intended as when Mr Andrew Bateson QC, for Mr Ingrams, protested at the reading of a long list of previous *Eye* apologies: "This is pure mad-slinging!" Collapse of stout parties.

There were tears when Mr Maxwell spoke about his family having been destroyed by Adolf Eichmann, whose name had been used by the magazine in one of its jibes against the tycoon. And a fission of Wicked Wizard threat when Mr Maxwell's television interview, in which he had vowed to "swat Ingrams like a fly" was quoted.

The theatre, like all great drama, also provided insight. Nothing was more revealing than those two long days when Mr Ingrams stood in the box under assault by Mr Richard Hartley, QC (for Mr Maxwell), who worked through a list of 53 previous apologies published by *Private Eye*.

Mr Hartley rained home the key phrases in the apologies offered after items on Lady Havers ("complete fabrication"), Sir James Goldsmith ("pure invention"), Mr Jocelyn Stevens ("pure invention"), an embassy official, Mr Gordon Kirby ("gravest defamation... totally false"), Mr Cecil Parkinson ("without slightest foundation").

Cross-examined on the magazine's sources for these discredited stories, Mr Ingrams insisted they came only from respected and authoritative journalists whose word he had never occurred to him to doubt. He then gave a battalion-strength role call of Fleet Street's finest, the 21st Foot and Mowat, as it were: Nigel Dempster, Paul Foot, Peter McKay, Polly Toynbee. A payment of £20 per item was "small".

The only element lacking from this lurid production of life here was, the Jury learned, that only two days before the trial Mr Maxwell had been awarded the Military Cross and commissioned in the field.

There was humour - some of it intentional as when Justice Mr Brown, reacting to the plea that Mr Ingrams was tired from his stint in the witness box, drawled: "Oh, but I looked him up in *Who's*

New body to head anti-Aids campaign

Continued from page 1

All health authorities were being asked to ensure that sexually transmitted disease clinics were given adequate resources to meet the demands of Aids. Allocation of resources to health authorities will take account of the needs of hospitals to treat Aids patients, he said.

MPs were told that no decisions had been taken on proposals for compulsory or voluntary screening. Mr Fowler spoke of the practical difficulties of embarking on large-scale screening of residents or visitors to Britain, and the fear that any element of compulsion might drive people away from seeking advice or help.

He said that the challenge of Aids would last for several generations, probably for the rest of the century, and there should be as much common ground as possible between the political parties.

Later, winding up the debate, Mr Antony Newton, the Minister for Health, disclosed that Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Employment, will on Monday send a booklet to employers telling them that there is no risk involved in day-to-day social contact with Aids carriers, including at the workplace.

Mr Newton said that it was important to avoid a situation in which carriers were treated as lepers, and lost their jobs.

Mr Michael Meacher, the Labour chief spokesman on health, condemned the Government's response so far as being "too little and too late" and said that a minimum adequate budget for countering the spread of Aids should be between £50 million to £100 million.

Mr Meacher said that the Aids problem was this year on the brink of exploding like a lethal timebomb. Faced with a death rate which could rise 70-fold in the next five years, and with costs for nursing Aids victims possibly rising to £300 million, any under-provision for prevention, counselling and research facilities would be "the grossest form of false economy".

Constable sells for record of £2.6m

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

Constable looks like ousting Turner as the most expensive artist of the British school. His "Flatford Lock and Mill" sold for £2,640,000 at Christie's yesterday, setting an auction price record for his work.

Trustees of the Tate Gallery had decided to make an all-out effort to acquire his "Opening of Waterloo Bridge", said to be valued at £4 million.

"Flatford Lock" depicts the home of Constable's father and a stretch of the river Stour where he grew up. It was his first picture commissioned by the Royal Academy and gives promise of his pioneering impressionism.

It was bid for by Agnew's, the Bond Street dealers, who were thought to be acting for Mr David Thomson, son and heir of Lord Thomson of Fleet. His remarkable Constable collection is split between his father's home in Kensington Palace Gardens and Canada.

Agnew's said the picture would be staying in this country. Agnew's is believed to have been acting for Mr Thomson when at Sotheby's on Wednesday it paid £1,590,000 for a Constable cloud study.

Until this week no Constable painting had made more than £345,600 at auction, and the appearance of two simultaneously has posed a problem for the National's collection. It had to pass on Constable's first Academy exhibit for the sake of a more famous work.

"The Opening of Waterloo Bridge" seen from Whitehall Stairs, June 18 1817, measures seven feet and depicts the opening of the Bridge by the Prince Regent. Constable conceived the idea of the picture in the 1820s.

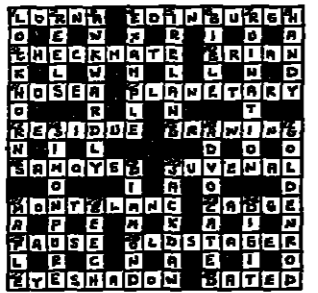
Treated with impressionistic brushwork - it was dubbed "unfinished" by his contemporaries - the high tonality of the painting so impressed Turner on varnishing day at the Academy that he added a bright red buoy to the seascape.

● It had been the School Braggart versus the House Sneak ●

£500,000 to be won

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Solution to Puzzle No 17,204



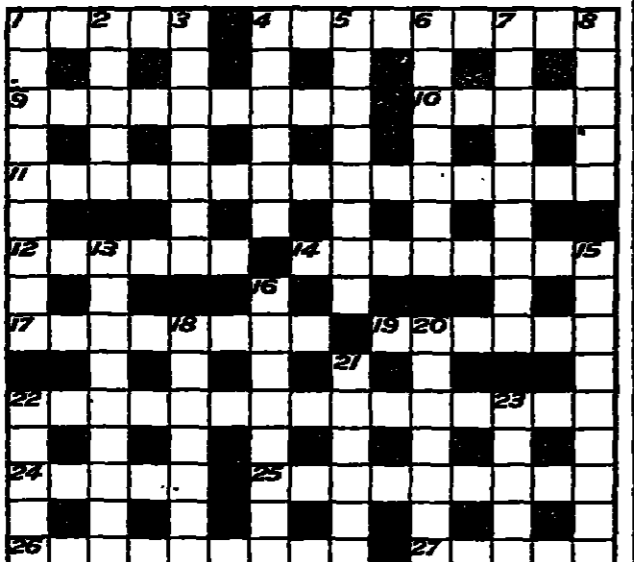
Solution to Puzzle No 17,209



A prize of *The Times Atlas of World History* will be given for the first three correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: *The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9DD.* The winners and solutions will be published next Saturday.

The winners of last Saturday's competition are: B Hughes, Nubian Cottage, High Street, Chieveley, N Newbury, Berks; D Macdonald, Birchdown, Hardenhuish Lane, Chippenham, Wills; A Limb, 10 Kingsley Close, Cropton, W Wakefield, West Yorks.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 17,210



- ACROSS**
- Exchange blows for a bit (5).
 - Pythia for one set out to divide the mob (9).
 - Michael's place on the Dvina river (9).
 - Derived from a number at frequent intervals (5).
 - Scotts marry and/or represent the old county (4,3,8).
 - Muslim chief accepts extermination schedule (6).
 - Abstract new cart reversing in the farm (8).
 - Set spied distributed in letters (8).
 - A denial by a literary corporal - an unidentified one (6).
 - City once named after a rock? (5,10).
 - Help to make a curtain, say (5).
 - Ruling odds 1 call stimulating (9).
 - Neat guide to craft (9).
 - Sounds like a little girl, this supernatural servant (5).
- DOWN**
- Cabinet supports step de-
 - signed to make flights secure (9).
 - Strong currents encountered by river champions (5).
 - Bill, the port authority eccentric (7).
 - In which to worship a deity in Pennsylvania? (6).
 - Unhealthy rainy parts of an ancient region (8).
 - Circus proprietor who's new to an island (7).
 - Set down soldier in harbour (9).
 - Two characters from 22 *th*, or one from 11? (5).
 - Dispose of bird protected by the best people (9).
 - Eg US politician eager to upset Establishment leaders? (9).
 - See about novice - one in mineworkers' element (8).
 - Gossip makes up story about *Rebabe* king (7).
 - Someone's tin god making a retreat (7).
 - Agreement appearing in it is all there (6).
 - Agreement about leaving a French island (5).

Today's events

New exhibitions

Christmas Lights, Cleveland Gallery, Victoria Rd, Middlesbrough; Tues to Sat 12 to 7 (ends Jan 31).

Enchings and drawings by Tielke Mori, Dolores Montiano and Charles Gautier, Great Barn Gallery, Parklands, Gt Linford, Milton Keynes; Mon to Sat 10 to 4 and 7 to 10 (ends Dec 13).

American Cartoons, Victoria Art Gallery, Bridge Street, Bath; Mon to Fri 10 to 6, Sat 10 to 5 (ends Jan 3).

Box of Delights, Grape Lane Gallery, Low Petergate, York; Mon to Sat 10 to 5 (ends Jan 31).

Five years with *The Face*, 5th anniversary of *The Face* cut magazine, Library Gallery, Guilford Lawn, Ransgate, Mon to Wed 9.30 to 5, Thur 9.30 to 5, Fri 9.30 to 8, Sat 9.30 to 5 (ends Dec 23).

Looking into Paintings: Fortraits, Castle Museum, Nottingham; Mon to Sun 10 to 4.45 (ends Jan 1).

Christmas exhibition of landscapes, Sladebrook House, 222 Englishcombe Lane, Bath, Mon to Sat 10 to 6, Sun 2 to 6 (ends Dec 7).

Tomorrow's events

Last chance to see

Thomas Hornor: 17th century landscape artist, National Museum of Wales, Main Building, Cathays Park, Cardiff, 2.30 to 5.15th, 19th and 20th century paintings, Gallery by the Park, West Hill, Galsbury Rd, Barrowford, Nelson, 10 to 5.30.

William Scott: The Scottish Gallery of Modern Art, Belford Road, Edinburgh, 2 to 5.

Masters of the 20th century photography, from the Gruber Collection, Museum Ludwig, Cologne; Corner House, 70 Oxford St, Manchester, 12 to 8, Music.

Concert by the Regional Youth Choir and Schools Orchestra; Tai Hall, Kelsa, 7.30.

Harworth Organ Enthusiasts; David Hamilton (composer) & Julie Haigh concert, Harworth Social Welfare Hall, Whitehouse Road, Bircotes, 7.30.

Concert by the Orchestra of St John Smith's Square, Hexagon, Leeds, 18.37, 7.30.

A recital of traditional music of China with Li Lisha (Chinese lute); Holywell Music Room, Oxford, 8.

Concert by the Harmonic Society and Oxford Symphony Orchestra; Town Hall, Oxford, 8.

Recital by Ian Partridge (tenor) and Jennifer Partridge (piano); Barnfield Theatre, Exeter University, 8.

Concert by the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra; St David's Hall, Cardiff, 7.30.

Roads

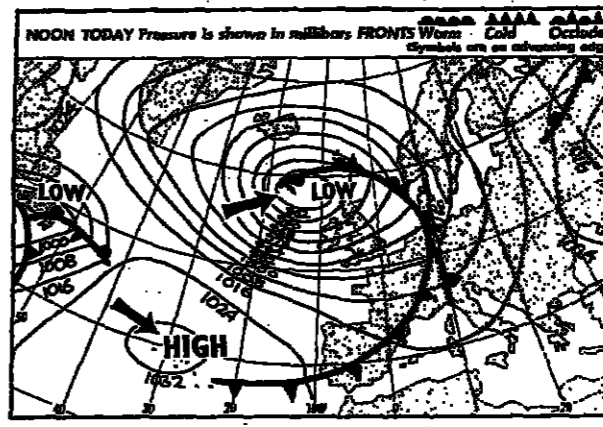
The Midlands: M1: Contrailwork between junctions 27 and 28 (Doncaster) will affect delays. M5: Two lane contrailwork between junctions 4 and 5 (Bristol) will affect delays. M6: Various lane closures affecting both carriageways between junctions 29 and 32 (Cardiff) (Wentworth) and 33 (Cardiff) (Wentworth). A36: Contrailwork between junctions 4 and 5 (Walsley) will affect delays. A58: Contrailwork between junctions 4 and 5 (Walsley) will affect delays. A58: Contrailwork between junctions 4 and 5 (Walsley) will affect delays.

Weather forecast

A vigorous depression in mid-Atlantic will move NE towards W Scotland, with a very strong W to SW airstream becoming established over the British Isles.

6 am to midnight

London, SE, central S, E, NE England, East Angles, Midlands, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray, Perth, Surrey intervals, scattered showers; wind SW strong locally; max temp 8C (46F).



High Tides

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TOMORROW	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	4:27	6.4	5:09	6.3	London Bridge	5:15	6.2	5:53	6.1
Avonmouth	4:34	6.2	4:52	6.1	Avonmouth	5:22	6.1	5:50	6.0
Belfast	2:13	2.9	2:34	3.3	Belfast	3:01	2.8	3:21	3.2
Cardiff	6:42	6.0	6:00	6.0	Cardiff	6:30	6.0	6:30	6.0
Devonport	3:26	4.8	3:48	4.7	Devonport	4:05	4.8	4:30	4.3
Dover	1:47	6.0	1:52	6.7	Dover	2:27	5.8	2:40	5.4
Edinburgh	7:55	6.1	8:12	6.1	Edinburgh	8:33	4.6	8:50	4.1
Glasgow	3:51	4.2	3:48	4.7	Glasgow	4:28	4.1	4:27	4.6
Harwich	2:36	3.8	3:02	3.8	Harwich	3:11	3.6	3:45	3.8
Hull	1:14	4.2	1:14	4.2	Hull	2:02	4.5	2:16	4.7
Malin	5:21	6.1	5:17	6.2	Malin	6:06	5.8	6:00	5.9
Milcombe	4:48	7.7	5:11	7.2	Milcombe	5:29	7.3	6:02	6.9
North Shields	1:28	5.9	1:28	6.0	North Shields	2:12	5.7	2:12	6.0
Liverpool	1:29	7.9	2:12	8.0	Liverpool	2:48	7.5	3:00	7.7
Lowestoft	0:00	2.5	12:22	2.1	Lowestoft	12:42	2.3	1:56	2.0
London	4:27	6.4	5:09	6.3	London	5:15	6.2	5:53	6.1
London	4:27	6.4	5:09	6.3	London	5:15	6.2	5:53	6.1
London	4:27	6.4	5:09	6.3	London	5:15	6.2	5:53	6.1

Portfolio Gold

For readers who may have missed a copy of *The Times* this week, we suggest before the week's Portfolio price changes (today's are on page 28).

Share	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
1st	+4	+3	+5	+4	+3					
2nd	+5	+4	+3	+2	+5					
3rd	+2	+6	+2	+3	+5					
4th	+5	+2	+3	+1	+2					
5th	+3	+2	+6	+4	+5					
6th	+4	+3	+2	+2	+2					
7th	+7	+3	+2	+2	+6					
8th	+5	+3	+2	+4	+4					
9th	+4	+4	+3	+4	+4					
10th	+3	+3	+5	+5	+5					
11th	+1	+3	+3	+3	+3					
12th	+5	+2	+5	+4	+3					
13th	+3	+1	+3	+3	+3					
14th	+2	+5	+2	+4	+3					
15th	+4	+2	+2	+3	+5					
16th	+6	+2	+2	+3	+2					
17th	+5	+2	+5	+3	+3					
18th	+5	+3	+1	+5	+5					
19th	+2	+5	+1	+4	+4					
20th	+5	+6	+2	+1	+5					
21st	+3	+4	+4	+4	+4					
22nd	+4	+3	+2	+1	+5					
23rd	+5	+2	+2	+3	+2					
24th	+6	+3	+5	+5	+5					
25th	+5	+2	+2	+3	+3					
26th	+2	+2	+1	+5	+3					
27th	+3	+4	+4	+4	+3					
28th	+4	+2	+2	+2	+6					
29th	+5	+3	+2	+3	+3					
30th	+6	+1	+1	+1	+1					
31st	+4	+3	+2	+2	+5					
32nd	+2	+2	+2	+4	+5					
33rd	+5	+1	+1	+3	+2					
34th	+3	+2	+1	+3	+4					
35th	+3	+2	+2	+1	+5					
36th	+2	+2	+3	+2	+3					
37th	+6	+2	+2	+3	+3					
38th	+6	+3	+1	+3	+4					
39th	+3	+4	+1	+2	+4					
40th	+4	+3	+2	+2	+2					
41st	+4	+2	+2	+2	+3					
42nd	+5	+5	+2	+4	+5					
43rd	+5	+2	+3	+4	+1					
44th	+2	+2	+3	+3	+4					

Around Britain

Area	Sun Rain	Max	Min	Area	Sun Rain
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SE rules out a ban on acting for Boesky

The Stock Exchange yesterday decided against banning its members from dealing for Mr Ivan Boesky, the disgraced American arbitrator. A spokesman for the DTI refused to comment yesterday. However, he confirmed that the new powers to question evidence and take evidence on oath could be used on any old referrals. Meanwhile, the DTI is becoming increasingly concerned that Mr Collier's lawyers will argue that the DTI's ruling does not limit Mr Boesky only to deals which wind up his affairs. Mr Collier's solicitors have requested the DTI to supply full transcripts of all radio interviews given by Ministers concerning the Collier affair. The DTI made special arrangements last Sunday to ensure that no officials saw Mr Collier when he was interviewed at the DTI's offices by the two specially-appointed DTI inspectors. The Government's concern over the potential adverse effects of publicity was highlighted when Mr Paul Channon, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, yesterday refused a request from the Labour MP Mr Robin Cook to give an assurance that Mr Boesky's insider dealing did not extend to the London market. Mr Channon said that the information was confidential and that "investigations stand much more chance of being successful if they are conducted in the full glare of publicity."

Congress attacks deal by the SEC

Congressmen, angered by reports that Mr Ivan Boesky was allowed to profit last week on information about his own case, said yesterday they would hold hearings in January on the deal he negotiated with the United States government. The proposed hearings are part of a groundswell of criticism against the Securities and Exchange Commission in political and financial circles. However, the Treasury secretary, Mr James Baker, said the Administration would review regulation of the securities industry in response to the Boesky scandal. He said: "The executive branch has an obligation to review this issue given the likelihood that Congress will propose new legislation on insider trading."



Sir Denis Rooke: 'looking forward to the new challenges'

Rooke confident of £5.6 billion company launch

British Gas to go public at 135p per share

British Gas shares were yesterday priced at 135p each, valuing the company at £5.6 billion. By 3pm, underwriting of the share issue had been completed. Sir Denis Rooke, the chairman, welcomed the start of a new era: "My colleagues and I look forward to the new challenges and we are braced to meet them." Payment for the shares will be in three instalments with 50p per share payable on application, 45p in June next year and 40p in April 1988. A spokesman for NM Rothschild, the merchant bank adviser to the sale, said he expected a premium of about 15p on the fully paid price when dealings start on December 8. This would mean a 30 per cent premium on the 50p partly paid shares. At the 135p offer price, the shares will sell on a forecast gross yield of 6.8 per cent. But for individual shareholders, the phasing of instalments coupled with gas vouchers will mean a return in the first year of 21.6 per cent. If investors choose bonus shares, these plus the dividend payments will give an effective average return of 11.4 per cent a year for three years. On the forecast pro forma profits of £884 million for the year to the end of March 1987

Half-time profits treble at NMC

NMC Investments, the revitalized packaging group in which the Saatchi brothers have a 28.6 per cent stake, yesterday announced that half-year pretax profits had jumped from £223,000 to £759,000. At the same time the company is buying two packaging companies for a maximum of £25 million. The news sent the share price racing ahead to close at 200p, up 16p. Last February the Saatchi brothers, Charles and Maurice, purchased 51 per cent of the company along with Mr Norman Gordon, an insurance broker and the current chief executive of NMC, at 16p a share. The acquisitions announced yesterday will dilute the Saatchi brothers' holdings to about 20 per cent. Mr Gordon said yesterday that the company aimed to become "a major packaging group concentrating on the service-orientated and high value added sector." NMC is paying a maximum £14 million for Bux Group, which has net assets of £6.5 million and made profits before tax of £1.76 million in its last financial year. In addition it is buying the Barker Group of companies for an initial £3.25 million plus a further maximum of £7.75 million depending on profits. In July this year NMC bought Interpoly, a security wrapping company, for £3 million.

Gatt agrees new rules

Geneva (Reuters) - Twenty nations yesterday agreed to new rules on the award of government contracts to business enterprises, an accord intended to open the field to more international competition, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) said. The agreement, to be implemented on January 1, 1988, will require signatory nations to post details of contract awards - including the price - within 60 days. Conditions for awarding recurring contracts will be tightened, while time limits for making bids on tenders will be extended from 30 to 40 days. Of \$3.5 billion (£2.14b) of procurement awarded yearly by the 20 signatory nations, about \$2.5 billion worth are directly covered by the accord said a spokesman for GATT. Most of the balance is for defence contracts, he added. Signatories include Austria, Canada, Belgium, Denmark, France, West Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Finland, United Kingdom on behalf of Hong Kong, Israel, Japan, Norway, Singapore, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States.

Dull start for Virgin shares

Shares in Mr Richard Branson's Virgin Group made a disappointing market debut yesterday. Set conservatively at 140p after the tender issue was three times oversubscribed, they hovered at about that price all day and closed at 139 1/2p, denying profits for the steps. Morgan Grenfell and Warburg Securities, advisers to the issue, were heavy buyers of the shares, although spokesmen at both companies denied that the purchases were part of a price-support operation to prevent the shares slipping to an embarrassing opening day discount. Mr Roger Seelig, a director of Morgan Grenfell, said: "We were buying for some 20 to 30 institutions. Our securities people had collected buying orders in the face of the normal sales from smaller holders on the first day. But there was no arm-twisting and we did not take any shares on to our own books." Towards the end of the day his company was bidding for shares at 140p, 1p above any other market-maker.

LCAH £7.4m rights issue

London and Continental Advertising Holdings' shareholders yesterday narrowly approved a £7.4 million rights issue, which gave a 29.9 per cent stake and management control to Piccadilly House, an investment group. However, MAI, a rival bidder, said that it was encouraged by soundings taken from independent shareholders and that it would be pressing ahead vigorously with its £28.3 million bid. Its cash offer has been revised to 118p per share, after the 110p rights issue.

Lawson lifts pound to strong recovery

The pound recovered strongly yesterday after the Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, repeated his reluctance, in the Commons this week, to see it fall further. But dealers said that the October trade figures next Tuesday are of crucial importance for sterling. The pound rose by 80 points to \$51.4195 against the dollar, and by 3.5 pence to DM2.8661. The sterling index rose by 0.3 to 67.9. Gilt-edged stocks rose by around half a point on average, after the sharp fall earlier this week. However, money market rates held the higher levels established earlier this week, despite indications that the Federal Reserve Board may be considering a cut in the US discount rate. The trade figures have now taken on a key role in the markets' assessment of the prospects for sterling and the economy, with some operators fearing a return to the balance of payments constraints of the 1960s. City forecasters expect the current account to have remained in deficit last month, probably by £100-200 million, implying a trade deficit of £700-800 million. This would represent a small improvement on the August and September figures.

Hollis set to raise bid for AE

Mr Robert Maxwell's Hollis Group is ready to raise the terms of its cash alternative offer for AE, the engineering group, from 260p to 280p per share. The improved offer will be made if certain substantial AE shareholders give it their backing by Tuesday night. The other terms and conditions of Hollis's offer would remain unchanged, according to a statement from AE last night. Meanwhile, Turner & Newall is taking legal action to recover costs and damages in connection with its first takeover bid for AE, which failed narrowly in September. The circumstances of the failure led to a month-long investigation by the City Takeover Panel. AE's advisers, Hill Samuel and Cazenove were censured by the panel for failing to disclose certain shares dealings and the Panel gave permission for T&N to mount its current £271 million bid. T&N said yesterday that it had issued a writ in the Chancery Division of the High Court claiming damages for negligence and/or breach of contract against AE, its merchant bankers Hill Samuel and its brokers Cazenove and Co, and Hill Samuel Group. In addition the writ claims damages for breach of statutory duty against Hill Samuel Group and Hill Samuel and Co. T&N's costs for the first bid were about £6 million, while the second takeover bid values AE at more than £20 million above the level of the first.

Ocean Transport wins its takeover battle

Ocean Transport and Trading, the shipping, freight and distribution group, has escaped the clutches of Mr Ron Brierley, the New Zealand entrepreneur, whose final £306 million takeover bid fell far short of success last night. Mr Brierley's offer of 260p cash for each share received acceptances from investors holding only 8.2 per cent of OTT's equity to add to the 29.4 per cent his IEP (UK) company had picked up in the market. OTT's offer of 230p on news of the failed bid, 230p on news of the failed bid, was bolstered by solid support from M&G Investment Management which took its stake to 13.8 per cent during the battle. Mr Bill Menzies-Wilson, chairman of OTT, said that he never had any doubts that the bid would fail. "Now we can get back to running the business. We have a number of things to do." A spokesman for Mr Brierley, who is planning to obtain a London listing for his master company, Brierley Investments, said that he planned to retain his stake in OTT.

1,200 jobs to go at Blue Circle

Britain's biggest cement manufacturer, Blue Circle Industries, confirmed yesterday that it is to reduce its British workforce by 1,200 during 1987. And there will be more redundancies in 1988. City observers estimate that total job losses could be more than 2,000. They calculate that this could cost the group at least £20 million in redundancy payments before taking account of associated costs. The redundancies, covering the whole business, will include employees from manufacturing, distribution and regional offices. Blue Circle employed 5,940 people in British cement manufacturing at the end of July. The restructuring will reduce the workforce by about 25 per cent over two years. Earlier this year Blue Circle announced plans to reduce the

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET FT 30 Share 1274.2 (+14.4) FT-SE 100 1624.9 (+14.2) Bargains 34762 (27162) USM (Datastream) 129.09 (-0.01) THE POUND US Dollar 1.4195 (+0.0085) W German mark 2.8653 (+0.0255) Trade-weighted 67.9 (+0.3)

Panel date for Opax

The takeover panel yesterday confirmed there would be a full panel meeting on Monday to consider the appeal by Datafin and the independent directors of McCorquodale against the executive's ruling that Norton Opax had won the bid for McCorquodale. The panel's executive had ruled that Opax had not been acting in concert with an investment institution - the Kuwait Investment Office - which was a core underwriter to the Opax bid and had been buying McCorquodale shares at prices above the Opax offer. Prudential-Bache, adviser to Datafin, announced also that it had bought more McCorquodale shares on Thursday to take its stake to 18.9 per cent.

Geest 30 times subscribed

The offer of shares in Geest was subscribed 30 times, with 110,000 applications received. Apart from priority applications which are allotted in full, the share allocation is: For 200 to 1,000 shares, a weighted ballot for 200 shares, 1,500 to 2,500 shares, a weighted ballot for 300 shares, 3,000 to 8,000 shares, a weighted ballot for 400 shares, 9,000 to 11,000 shares, 400 shares allocated; 12,000 to 19,000 shares, 500 shares allocated; 20,000 shares and above, about 3.4 per cent of the application up to a maximum of 100,000 shares.

Rothmans up

Pretax profits at Rothmans International, the cigarette and brewing group, rose from £58.8 million to £73.8 million in the six months to September 30 on turnover down from £744.8 million to £725.5 million. The interim dividend was raised from 2.2p to 2.5p. Tempus, page 27

Rover tender

The Rover Group is inviting tenders for the purchase of its Llanelli radiators operation, a supplier of radiators, heat exchange equipment and seat frames. Tenders are to be delivered to Hill Samuel by December 12.

Shanghai rush

Peking (Reuters) - Thousands of Shanghai citizens lined up to buy 27 million yuan (£5 million) worth of bonds on their first day of issue, an official newspaper reported. Queues of more than 1,000 people formed outside bank branches for the bonds, issued to raise capital for an ethylene plant.

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS New York Dow Jones 1871.77 (+11.11) Tokyo Nikkei Dow 17489.58 (+186.02) Hong Kong Hang Seng 2273.98 (+28.03) Singapore SMI 283.12 (+2.3) Sydney AO 1346.1 (+15.2) Frankfurt Commerzbank 2013.9 (+26.7) Brussels General 3855.37 (+4.98) Paris CAC 388.2 (+0.5) Zurich SKA Gen 563.10 (+9.50) London FT A n/a FT Gite 81.00 (+0.52) Closing prices Page 29

MAIN PRICE CHANGES RISES: Fothergill & H 241p (+83p) Pilkington Bros 221p (+8p) Tower Knives 137p (+11p) Cliffords Dairy 157p (+12p) Atkins 275p (+12p) AB Ports 285p (+10p) B&C Commonwealth 303p (+10p) BEI 425p (+9p) Pearson 675p (+9p) Exel 401p (+15p) PWS International 305p (+16p) Land Secs 335p (+11p) NMC Investments 198p (+14p) Cons Gold 688p (+12p) Greenwich Res 157p (+10p) 640p (+10p) Steel Bros 512p (+79p) Corvay Pet 512p (+79p) FALLS: Bechtam 422p (-3p) SSTR 298p (-5p) Porter Chadburn 330p (-16p) Prices are as at 4pm

GOLD London Fixing AM \$389.50 pm \$388.20 close \$383.00-383.50 (£270.75-271.25) New York Comex \$380.00-380.50

NORTH SEA OIL Brent (Jan.) pm \$15.00/bbl (\$15.00) Demotes latest trading price

INTEREST RATES London Bank Base 11% 3-month interbank 11 1/4-11 1/2% 3-month eligible bills 10 1/4-11 1/4% buying rate US: Prime Rate 7 1/2% Federal Funds 5 1/4% 3-month Treasury Bills 5.35-5.37% 30-year bonds 100 1/4-100 1/2%

PEPs. Listen before you leap. Here's a short, simple and free explanation of how a Personal Equity Plan can work for you. Prepared jointly by Fidelity and Douglas Moffitt, Financial Editor of LBC, it explains how you can invest up to the full Government allowance of £2,400 each year in a PEP. Or become a share owner for as little as £35 a month. All tax-free. Remember, the price of shares and unit trusts can go down as well as up. Send for the Fidelity PEP 'Action Pack' and find out about our special 1% discount, if you take a Fidelity PEP before December 19th. Simply complete and return the coupon, or call us now. The lines are open from 9am to 5pm every weekend and from 9am to 9pm Monday to Friday. Callfree Fidelity 0800 414161 To: Fidelity Investment Services Limited, River Walk, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 1DY. Please send me my Fidelity PEP 'Action Pack' without delay. Full name: Mr/Mrs/Miss Address Postcode 46L6 Fidelity Fidelity Unit Trust Managers of the Year 1986 Money Magazine

Saint-Gobain sale likely to raise £924m

Paris (AP-Dow Jones) - Shares in Saint-Gobain SA, France's state-controlled glass and building materials group, will be sold to the private sector on November 24 at Fr310 (£32.91) a share, the economics ministry announced yesterday.

The Saint-Gobain sale, which launches France's plans to denationalize 65 state-owned concerns over the next five years, will cover 28 million shares, raising almost Fr7.7 billion (£924 million) for the government.

Saint-Gobain has a total of 43.8 million shares, some of which are held by state-sector banks, which are expected to sell their stock later to a group of "core" industrial operators. Based on the total number of shares outstanding, a price of Fr310 a share would value the group at almost Fr13.6 billion.

The Fr13.6 billion valuation compares with a minimum price of Fr12 billion set by a state privatization commission for which Saint-Gobain should be sold.

The economics ministry confirmed that 10 per cent of the shares offered in the privatization would be reserved for Saint-Gobain employees. These shares will be sold at a 5 per cent discount, although employees who hold the shares for at least two years will receive a 20 per cent discount.

The ministry said that 5.6 million shares, or 20 per cent of the total, would be sold on the international market.

The remaining 19.6 million shares would be allotted through a public offering on the Paris bourse from November 24 to December 5.

The terms of this offer guarantees that orders from individuals will be fulfilled in their entirety up to a limit of 10 shares. Orders of more than 10 shares may be partially fulfilled if demand for the shares exceeds supply.

The government plans to give one share to investors who hold 10 shares for a minimum of 18 months.

The government also announced that holders of Saint-Gobain's 8 million non-voting shares would be able to transfer their securities into regular common stock. The terms of this exchange allow holders to buy voting rights for their shares at Fr10 each. Trading in non-voting shares was suspended at Fr307 each on November 3 to avoid speculation in their relatively thin market.

Saint-Gobain posted consolidated net income of Fr753 million for 1985 on revenue of Fr7,888 billion. The group expects a net income of about Fr1.3 billion for the 1986 financial year.

The group expects its consolidated revenue for 1986 as a whole to be at least Fr7.6 billion. For the first nine months of the year, turnover totalled Fr5.8 billion.

Courtaulds in £28m bid for Fothergill

Courtaulds, the textiles, chemicals and industrial products group, has launched a £28.2 million cash bid for Fothergill & Harvey, which makes advanced materials, coated and uncoated engineering fabrics and electrical insulation.

Courtaulds approached Fothergill last week to try and secure a board recommendation but the Fothergill board made it plain that it wanted to retain its independence.

Fothergill directors yesterday called the bid "opportunistic and completely unacceptable".

Courtaulds is keen to expand its advanced materials division and believes that regrouping into bigger units with greater resources to spend on research and development is the best way to deal with the Swiss, American and French competition.

Advanced materials, which substitute new and mainly fibre-based materials for old materials such as metal, have particular weight-saving applications in areas like aircraft and racing cars.

Fothergill made pretax profits in the six months to June 28 of £1.1 million, a decrease on the previous half year's £1.4 million.

The terms of the offer are 225p cash for each share. Fothergill's shares rose 68p to 246p and Courtaulds 77p to 323 1/2p.

Nigeria and banks in £1.5bn debt pact

Nigeria has agreed terms with its main creditor banks on a debt rescheduling agreement.

The agreement - to reschedule \$1.5 billion of debt due by the end of 1987 - is to be sent to all Nigeria's creditor banks for approval over the next few days.

Supported by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, the agreement includes new lending of \$320 million. Nigeria's 300 creditor banks will have until December 12 to respond to the steering committee.

The terms of the agreement grant Nigeria a four-year period of grace from April, 1986. Repayments will be over six years from April, 1990 at 12.5 per cent above the London inter-bank offered rate.

Barclays, Citibank and Banque Nationale de Paris are co-chairmen of the steering committee of 11 commercial banks which negotiated the rescheduling.

As well as the rescheduling of medium-term debt, the agreement involves \$2 billion of letters of credit, which will be repaid between 1988 and 1990.

The Bank of England has been closely involved in helping Nigeria out of its difficulties. At the time of the annual IMF meeting in Washington and Nigeria's establishment of a two-tier foreign currency market, the Bank put together a bridging loan for Nigeria.

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Blue chips lead share advance

New York (Reuter) - Share prices moved higher in early trading yesterday as the trend towards more fundamentally sound issues, particularly blue chips, continued.

An advance in bond prices provided additional boost to the market.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 7.31 to 1,867.97 at one early stage when the transport indicator was up 2.50 to 829.25 and the utilities average up 0.92 to 208.14.

The 65 stocks average was up 2.76 to 737.65.

The broader Standard & Poor's 500-share index rose 0.89 to 242.94 while the New York Stock Exchange composite index was up 0.49 to 139.51.

Advancing shares were leading declines by a margin of about six-to-five.

Digital Equipment gained 1 1/2 to 101 1/2 and Hewlett Packard, which announced strong earnings on Thursday, gained 1/4 to 42.

Goodyear, which announced a share buyback from Sir James Goldsmith on Thursday, fell 1/2 to 42 1/2 in active trading.

Oil futures prices opened lower on the New York Mercantile Exchange yesterday.

The January contract traded at \$15.24 a barrel soon after the opening, eight cents below Thursday.

The February contract was at \$15.35 a barrel, a drop of seven cents on Thursday's close.

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WALL STREET

Nov 20	Nov 19	Nov 18	Nov 17	Nov 16
AMR	56 1/2	56 1/2	56 1/2	56 1/2
AT&T	52 1/2	52 1/2	52 1/2	52 1/2
IBM	110 1/2	110 1/2	110 1/2	110 1/2
Intel	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
Microsoft	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
Oracle	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
Unisys	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
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STOCK MARKET REPORT

Hopes of merger with UB boost Cadbury Schweppes

By Michael Clark and Carol Leonard

Dealers were feasting themselves yesterday on the growing prospect of an agreed merger between two of Britain's biggest food manufacturers.

There is talk that Cadbury Schweppes, the confectionery, soft drinks and food group, is thinking of getting together with United Biscuits, of McVitie and Crawford's cream-cracker fame.

Both companies are being continually tipped as potential takeover targets and earlier this year United tried unsuccessfully to merge with Imperial Group before Imps was swallowed up by Hanson Trust in a £2.6 billion bitterly contested takeover battle.

The possibility of a merger between the two companies has been mooted before, but speculation increased sharply yesterday as Cadbury Schweppes jumped 6p to 180p as almost 10 million shares changed hands. United finished the day 1p firmer at 235p.

A merger between both companies would be seen in the City as a purely defensive move designed to deter unwanted predators. Sir Hector Laing, chairman of United, would put up fierce resistance to any unwanted approach. But he may content himself with Cadbury which would result in a new food and soft drinks group valued at £2 billion.

Dealers are already

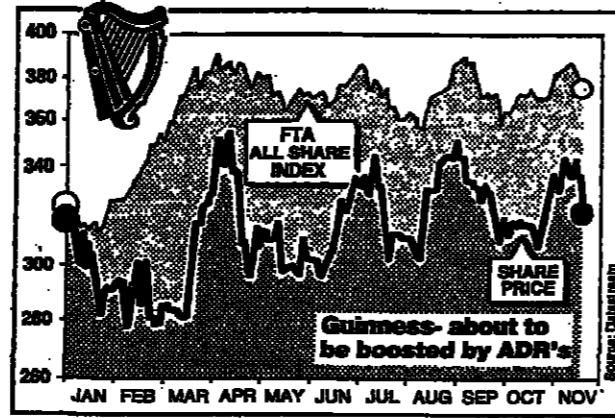
speculating about a possible cross-holding being built up by both sides as the prelude to a merger.

Bid fever dominated the rest of the equity market with a number of the old favourites back in demand. Some new twists in existing struggles were also evident. Mr Robert Maxwell, publisher of the Daily Mirror, continued to dictate the pace of the battle for control of AE by increasing the cash offer of his bid for AE to 280p. That compares with the 271p being offered by Turner & Newall. But the news came to late to affect the AE share price which closed 1p firmer at 267p.

The market was further encouraged by the rise on Wall Street, which was showing gains of almost 12 points by

There are signs of recovery in Woolworth, 3p up at 64p and still underpinned by the near 5 per cent stake held by Dixons. The group has met a number of brokers and fund managers and good news may be in the pipeline. Dixons paid about 670p for its stake and another bid is not ruled out.

mid-morning. It caused a surge in new-time buying for next week's new account and by the close the FT 30-share index was at its highest level of the day, up 14.4 at 1274.2. It has nevertheless fallen 43



Guinness - about to be boosted by ADR's

The next big new issue was, however, firing somewhat better. As British Gas announced that it would be selling its shares at 135p each, they were being traded at a middle price of 161p on the unofficial 'grey' market.

Among blue chips Hanson Trust, which again had one of the highest volumes of the day at 6.2 million, firmed 2p to 197p, ICI 5p to 1054p, Glaxo 10p to 910p and Laces 10p to 453p.

The renewed mood of optimism failed to rub off on Virgin, the record and pop music empire of Mr Richard Branson, which began dealing yesterday. Despite heavy buying by its advisers, Morgan Grenfell and Rowe & Pitman, in what was said to be an attempt to support the price, the shares touched 137p, a 3p discount to the 140p striking price before returning to 140p by the close. A shortage of institutional interest in the stock was blamed.

Guinness, the stout and whisky group, improved 5p to 326p, and could soon be seeing further rises, according to City analysts. Its shares are expected to be given a significant boost over the next few

weeks because of the introduction of an ADR facility in New York. Although official dealings in ADRs will not begin until next summer, at the earliest, its sponsor, First Boston Credit Suisse, the American finance house, started making an over-the-counter market in them on Thursday.

It is known as a pink sheet, says Mr Daniel Leaf, leading brewing and leisure analyst at Wood Mackenzie, the broker, and it means that the stock is now more accessible to American institutions.

Guinness unveils its year-end figures on December 10 and Wood Mackenzie is looking for profits of £235 million, putting the stock on a p/e of just under 12. Its 1987 forecast of £462 million had been ahead of the field but most other brokers firms are now raising their forecasts to that level.

Elsewhere among breweries Vaux, the independent brewer based in Sunderland, leapt 21p to 444p as new-time speculators rushed into the stock amid talk of a bid during the next account. There has been persistent talk over the past couple of months of a takeover by Wolverhampton & Dudley and Pleasurama might launch a joint assault. Wolverhampton taking the brewing business, and Pleasurama the hotels.

It's a sitting target," commented one market maker. "Unlike most small regional breweries there are no family blocking stakes and no two-tier voting structure."

Brokers estimate that it could have a take-out price of up to 600p a share.

Bass improved 12p to 740p, Morlaix 10p to 375p and Grand Metropolitan, where there is still talk of a possible consortium bid, climbed 11p to 454p, with 3.4 million shares going through the market.

Kennedy Brookes, the Wheelers to Mario & Franco restaurant group, dipped 2p to 291p after announcing its 6.43 per cent stake in Goldsmiths, the jewellery, hotels and insurance group. The move, by Kennedy Brookes, is being interpreted by the market as a defensive one, with Brookes itself surrounded by speculation that it might soon be a takeover target. It could have good cause to feel concerned - one buyer picked up a line of 500,000 shares yesterday.

Devesh, the West Country brewer, has been mentioned as a possible predator. Goldsmiths shares went up 18p to 252p.

COMMENT

Sid will be delighted to receive the news

At last it can be told. The distinctly un-ubiquitous Sid must surely have been deliberately incommunicado while enjoying a quiet celebration in advance of the British Gas share sale.

For Sid and millions like him, the terms announced yesterday look mouth-watering. Small investors being offered either bonus shares or gas vouchers will see some highly attractive short-term returns on their initial down payment of 50p a share.

The arithmetic is probably beyond the capabilities of Sid, even armed with a pocket calculator. But ascribing a cash value to the £10 gas bill vouchers, taking account of the fact that the shares are paid for in easy instalments and that a dividend is payable within 12 months, the first year's return to someone buying 400 shares represents 21 per cent gross.

Doing similar sums, those opting for the alternative share bonus after three years will see an 11 per cent rate of return, assuming that dividends and share price remain unchanged.

It will come as no great surprise that the mechanics of the sale have been devised so that there is every chance of a worthwhile premium.

Given all the hype, the issue could be subscribed a couple of times over. A twice subscribed issue would leave long-term holders of Gas shares very much short of their ideal portfolio weightings when first dealings commence.

Some 20 per cent of the issue has been allocated for overseas investors, and half the remainder earmarked for the small private investor and half for the institutions. Yet if the issue is oversubscribed, there will be a claw-back in favour of the small man. Sid and his chums could wind up with as much as 64 per cent of the issue.

Barring a market collapse, private investors look to be in as close to a no-loss position as it is possible to be. For, if the stock opens quietly, professionals will move in; first to make up their appropriate portfolio weighting, secondly to switch while Gas shares look attractive to other energy sector investments such as Shell and BP.

On current analysts' forecasts, Shell sells for a prospective yield in the 6 per cent region while BP sports a higher anticipated return of around 7.2 per cent. British Gas, on the 135p fully paid price, will yield 6.8 per cent. Yet there is a quality argument which says that Gas could justify a yield closer to Shell's since its profits are far less vulnerable to a short-term decline in the oil price.

At this stage then, it would be fair to guess that professionals will be buyers of British Gas shares at anything up to 145p to 150p. That should be seen as a floor level for the shares in their fully paid form.

As with the TSB issue, there is every possibility of over-enthusiasm taking the price beyond that level. Again like the TSB, private shareholders will be trading among themselves until the shares come back to the point where institutions move in. TSB touched 99p in first dealings and they have now returned to a much more reasonable 77p.

For those who are attracted by the loyalty bonus of one free share for every 10 held, such short-term considerations are of marginal interest. But in the longer term, British Gas looks capable of performing reasonably well. There is a substantial one-off boost to profits next year in prospect due to a lagged response to lower oil and gas prices.

British Gas agrees prices with its suppliers based on prices averaged over a historic period so that the benefits of cheaper oil come through slowly. Most analysts reckon that on both historic cost and current cost accounting bases, profits can average growth of 20 per cent up to 1990. So if Sid takes the long view, he should find the exercise worthwhile. If he is speculative, he could make a 25 per cent turn on the partly paid price. As he might have said himself, not a bad little earner.

Own up on asbestos

There is a strong feeling *à la* vu about Turner & Newall's reluctance to go into details of its current exposure to asbestos-related legal actions or indeed to make any provisions in last year's accounts for any future claims which might arise.

Followers of the demise of the giant Manville Corporation will recall that it too was remarkably unspecific about the extent of its own exposure a few years ago. Since then Manville has filed for re-organization under Chapter 11 of the US Federal Bankruptcy code, which allows insolvent companies to continue trading while they devise a plan to pay off their creditors.

In its 1981 annual report, Manville said it had substantial defences to asbestos actions brought against it.

In September this year though, Manville clarified the position. It reckoned it would be paying more than \$2.5 billion (£1.74 billion) into a trust for victims over the next 25 years. T & N says its problems are nothing like so bad and Manville's US business was vastly bigger than T & N's. Yet the refusal to tell AE shareholders about likely exposure to the inevitable future claims must be a factor when they consider whether to accept T & N's bid terms.

John Bell
City Editor

ALPHA STOCKS

These prices are as at 6.45pm

Table with columns for 1986 High/Low Company, Price, Change, and 1986 High/Low Company, Price, Change. Lists various stocks like Allied-Lyons, ASDA-MFI, BTR, BAT, Biscuits, etc.

Imry close to bid agreement

By Judith Huntley Commercial Property Correspondent

Imry Property Holdings, the company controlled by Mr Arnold Lee, his family interests and the directors, is believed to be close to settling an agreed bid for the company, thought to emanate from a private property company.

Imry first announced that bid talks were under way in July and the market has been waiting for the details.

Mr Arnold Lee, Imry's chairman, said yesterday: "We are very far advanced with our talks but there are still some matters to be settled. The price has been agreed."

Imry's last stated net asset value was 402p per share and its property portfolio was put at £93.3 million.

The company saw rental income rise but pretax profits fell slightly to £1.31 million because of the refurbishment of the former Turf building on the Great West Road, west London, now let to Wang, the computer company. Imry has developments in the United States as well as in Britain.

B & C alters bid terms for Steel Brothers

British & Commonwealth Shipping, the transport and finance group, has made its offer for Steel Brothers a cash bid, with a share alternative rather than the other way round.

The change comes after B & C bought 1.4 per cent of Steel, which specializes in catering and fine quarrying, for 63p cash. A similar cash offer is available for all of Steel.

The alternative is two B & C shares for each Steel share.

RIVLIN: The company has completed the sale of its Penarth Road, Cardiff, property to the existing tenant, the Co-operative Retail Services, for £1.65 million. It has also completed the sale of its Theory property in France for £1.076 million to Finanz Investment Co.

TEMPUS Rothmans coming out of rationalization smoke

By Judith Huntley Commercial Property Correspondent

Rothmans International appears to be surfacing after being lost in a smoke of rationalization costs. Almost £80 million was taken above the line in the past two years as cigarette operations, particularly in West Germany and Britain, were ruthlessly pared in the face of declining markets.

Rothmans operations are now on a rising trend for the first time in three years, with pretax profits up by 12.5 per cent to £73.8 million in the six months to September 30. Cigarette profits rose in continental Europe despite lower volumes and were also higher in the Far East, although the stronger pound cancelled out this advance.

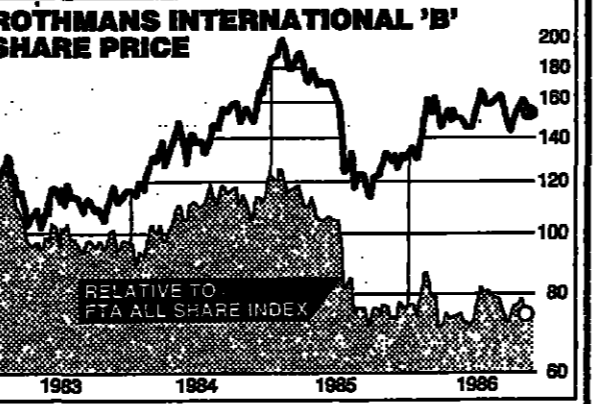
Prospects also look considerably brighter in Canada, where a fierce cigarette price war appears to be over and a merger of operations with Philip Morris awaits government approval.

The other leading Canadian price-cutting victim - brewer Carling O'Keefe - is also making a strong recovery after an almost total collapse of profits last year. The luxury goods associates - Dunhill and Cartier - continue to go from strength to strength with a 23 per cent rise in operating profits in the first half.

As a recovery stock, Rothmans still appears to have further to go. Mr Nyræn Scott-Malden, analyst at Barclays de Zoete Wedd, yesterday raised his full-year pretax profits estimate from £150 million to £160 million, before any further rationalization costs that may result from the Canadian tobacco merger. That forecast puts the shares, up 8 1/2p to 165 1/2p, on a very reasonable p/e ratio of 7.5 with a 6 per cent-plus yield to boot.

Arbitrage

Hands up those who know the difference between risk, market or classic arbitrage? Given that Mr Ivan Boesky, "king of the arbs", is now in disgrace, many would consider that all types of arbitrage are shady. In Britain, what used to be practised in the name of



Blue Circle

Blue Circle's shares rose yesterday despite the announcement of a substantial redundancy programme.

It would be pleasant to think that far-sighted investors were keen to benefit from a soon-to-be-profitable British operation. However, it is far more likely that they are piling in on the back of Adsteam's 6.3 per cent shareholding. (Adsteam is the business owned by the entrepreneur, John Spalvin.) Mr Spalvin's intentions are unclear and there is talk of a concert party. However, if Mr Spalvin wants to "greenmail" BCI into selling its Australian business, it is strange that he has not yet approached them.

However, from Blue Circle's point of view, this is a welcome diversion. Despite virtually halving its British cement workforce in the past 10 years the business is still in a forlorn state. Imports keep prices down while the common price agreement makes it hard to take a more imaginative approach.

The big question is how and when will these redundancy costs be faced. By rights they should be exceptional. If they are taken this year's profits will be well below £100 million but the pill will have been swallowed. In the meantime, those who are bored with waiting for the light at the end of the tunnel will be happy for others to stoke up the train.

Advertisement for Target Pension Plan. Includes text: 'If you're about to invest in a pension plan make sure it's the best on the market.' Lists various funds like Schroder, Allied Dunbar, Equitable, Scottish Widows, Albany Life. Includes a form to request details of the Target Pension Plan.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Buying for new account

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began on November 10. Dealings ended yesterday. Contango day next Monday. Settlement day December 1. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Where stocks have only one price quoted, these are middle prices taken daily at 5pm. Yield, change and P/E ratio are calculated on the middle price. Where stocks have only one price quoted, these are middle prices taken daily at 5pm. Yield, change and P/E ratio are calculated on the middle price.

Portfolio Gold

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches, you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

Table with columns: No., Company, Group, Gain or Loss. Lists various companies like Oxford Instruments, Jones Sound, Baker Perkins, etc.

Please take account of any minus signs.

Weekly Dividend table with columns: MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI, SAT, SUN.

BRITISH FUNDS table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

SHORTS (Under Five Years) table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

UNDATED table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

INDEX-LINKED table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

BANKS DISCOUNT HP table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

BREWERIES table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

BUILDINGS AND ROADS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

CINEMAS AND TV table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

DRAPERY AND STORES table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

HOTELS AND CATERERS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

INDUSTRIALS A-D table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

INDUSTRIALS E-K table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

INDUSTRIALS L-R table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

ELECTRICALS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

FINANCE AND LAND table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

FOODS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

HOTELS AND CATERERS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

INDUSTRIALS A-D table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

INDUSTRIALS E-K table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

INDUSTRIALS L-R table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

INDUSTRIALS M-Z table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

INDUSTRIALS A-D table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

INDUSTRIALS E-K table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

INDUSTRIALS L-R table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

INSURANCE table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

LEISURE table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

MINEING table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

OIL table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

OVERSEAS TRADERS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

PROPERTY table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

SHIPPING table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

SHOES AND LEATHER table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

TEXTILES table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

TOBACCO table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

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TOBACCO table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer.

Portfolio Gold advertisement with details on DAILY DIVIDEND (£4,000) and WEEKLY DIVIDEND (£8,000).

Main stock exchange price table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Bid, Offer. Includes sections for BREWERIES, BUILDINGS AND ROADS, CHEMICALS, PLASTICS, CINEMAS AND TV, DRAPERY AND STORES, HOTELS AND CATERERS, INDUSTRIALS A-D, INDUSTRIALS E-K, INDUSTRIALS L-R, INSURANCE, LEISURE, MINEING, MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT, NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS, OIL, OVERSEAS TRADERS, PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G, PROPERTY, SHIPPING, SHOES AND LEATHER, TEXTILES, TOBACCO.

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, possibly a page number or reference.

FAMILY MONEY/1

Edited by Peter Gartland

It's a bargain - so don't spoil the share form

Yesterday was so-called Impact Day for British Gas... Yesterday was so-called Impact Day for British Gas, the day when Sid and 7.5 million other investors found out that shares in the biggest over UK shares flotation would be priced at 135p - 15p below the maximum of 150p that the Government's financial advisers had talked about when the Gas Pathfinder Prospectus was published three weeks ago.



It does look highly likely then that overseas demand will be scaled down. It also seems likely that large applications from UK private investors (say, 10,000 shares) will be substantially satisfied. By this morning a million of the 7.5 million prospectuses requested by members of the public should be dropping through letterboxes all over Britain.

And, if you think the British Gas media blitz is over, you're wrong. Next Tuesday the full prospectus will be published in various newspapers, including The Times. The prospectus will also be available in clearing bank branches and post offices from Tuesday.

When you are filling out the prospectus keep firmly in mind the most common mistakes that people make and avoid them yourself. Do remember to sign the cheque and the application form and do not attempt more than one application per person.

One final thought illustrates the huge scale of this operation. Some bright spark in the British Gas Share Information Office has worked out that if all the prospectuses were laid end to end they would stretch from New York almost to Los Angeles. PG

Proof from PEP pioneers

Credit for pioneering work where it's due. In his 1986 Budget statement on March 18, Nigel Lawson announced a new concept in individual investment - the Personal Equity Plan.

In the morning papers on March 20, Fidelity Investment Services was not only advertising its intention to offer a PEP but inviting people to write in for further details. At that stage Fidelity, along with the rest of the financial community, would not have been able to tell you the difference between a PEP and a tin of dog food but its enterprising spirit has clearly paid off.



Barry Bateman: 18,000 inquiries

Eight months on from the conception of PEPs, Fidelity's initial enthusiasm is beginning to be mirrored by its competitors, several of whom displayed reluctance to embrace the PEP's charms. That early resistance among City institutions was based on several factors. First, they said, the entire concept was only a half-hearted attempt to popularize capitalism because, unlike the Loi Monory system in France, Loi Lawson gave no tax breaks to investors at the pay-in end of the investment chain.

The institutions also argued that PEPs would be horribly expensive for them to administer. In short, they gave the definite impression of wanting the whole thing to go away.

The mood now has changed. Fears remain about the cost of servicing PEPs and the feeling still exists that tax breaks at the outset would have turned the concept into something really worthwhile. Nevertheless, progress on costs has been made. Most significant of all in this respect is that it is a PEP requirement that a copy of the annual report and accounts of every company invested in must be sent to the individual investor.

Both Fidelity and Save & Prosper report agreement with a number of large companies that those companies themselves will bear the distribution cost of annual reports. There is satisfaction, too, that a role has been found for unit trusts. In S&P's case, the marketing director Paul Bateman (no relation to his company's PEP's unit trust option will allow access to all S&P's 28 unit trusts.

Most important of all is the grudging acceptance among some institutions that if they do not get in on the ground floor, maybe having to treat PEPs as a loss leader in the early stages, they may have to pay a high price to get in at a later stage.

A Personal Equity Plan is a scheme whereby from January 1 everyone aged 18 and over will be able to invest up to £2,400 a year (or £200 a month) in a PEP.

Reinvestment without tax

The money you put in will be invested in ordinary shares of UK companies listed on the Stock Exchange. USM company shares, and unit investment trusts up to 25 per cent of the total amount invested. Provided the PEP investment is held for a minimum of between 12 months and two years, any capital gains and reinvested dividends will be entirely free of tax and will continue to be so for as long as

the investor keeps his PEP. Clearly, the longer the investment runs the more the tax relief will build up. If the investor pulls out before the minimum period has elapsed, he will lose the tax relief and any capital gain and dividend income will be taxed in the usual way.

Although the scheme is open to all adults, the Chancellor is on record as saying that it is specially designed to encourage smaller savers, and particularly those who may never previously have invested in equities. Plans will operate on a calendar year basis. An investment can be treated as having entered a plan in the calendar year in which it is first used to buy shares. To qualify for the tax exemptions, it must then remain within the plan for the whole of the next calendar year.

If an investment is made on December 1, 1987, and used to buy shares on the same day, it forms part of the investor's permitted allocation of £2,400 for 1987. The investment must be retained within the plan throughout the following calendar year 1988, and the earliest it can be realized without the loss of tax exemption will be January 1, 1989.

The investment will be handled by an authorized PEP manager who may be, for example, a stockbroker, a bank or a fund management group. But the investor himself will own the shares and all the rights, including voting rights. It will be up to the investor to choose whether to make the investment decisions himself or to give the plan manager authority to act for him. Plan managers will buy, sell and hold investments and deal with the Inland Revenue, including making the necessary claims for tax relief. More than 100 firms have so far applied to plan managers, a level of interest which clearly delighted Mr Lawson when he chided those who "couldn't wait to predict that this initiative would never get off the ground".

With more than 100 firms signalling their intentions in this way and only a handful of them made public so far, it looks as if December will be deluge month for PEPs. Apart from Fidelity and S&P, among the main plans

that have been made public are those from Hill Samuel, FS Assurance, stockbrokers Stepparts & Chase and Charles Stanley, and the four big clearers, Barclays, Lloyds, Midland and National Westminster.

There are several scheme permutations, brand names and charging structures, and although they all naturally enthrall about their own investment performance there is little doubt that at the start of the PEPs era, financial advisers will steer clients into PEPs contracts as much on the basis of efficient administration as investment potential.

John Greener, of Richards Longstaffe, says he will write to his 10,000 clients in mid-December with one firm PEP recommendation for 1987, and one only. Mr Greener reckons that on the basis of a national 100 points out of which he will "mark" PEPs, marks out of 40 will be given according to reliable administration.

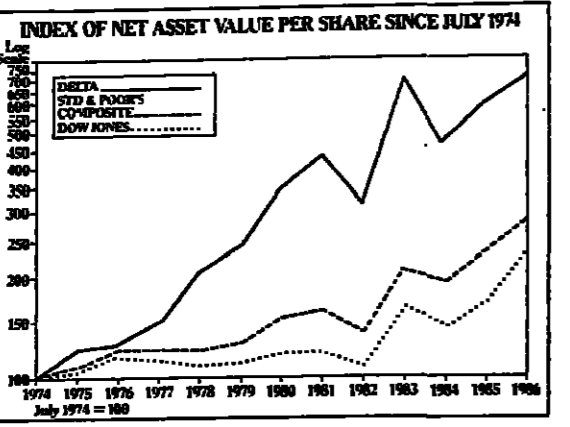
In the long term, of course, investors and their advisers will be content to live with mediocre administration provided the investment goodies live up to their promise. The envy of its competitors. The front runner on both scores must be Fidelity. Its unit trust performance has consistently kept it among the top fund management groups since it was set up in the UK seven years ago and its smooth administration is the envy of its competitors.

That is not to say Fidelity will have any PEP field entirely to itself but it will be the benchmark by which others are judged. Peter Gartland

Delta Investment Company Limited

(Incorporated under the laws of the Bahama Islands as a company limited by guarantee.) An open-ended Investment Trust listed on the London Stock Exchange.

The company objective is high capital growth, achieved by taking advantage of the size and diversity of the American market through investment primarily in medium and smaller sized companies which have developed strength in management, finance and product.



Extracts from the Chairman's Statement. At the time of writing the relationship between the smaller stocks and "blue chip" issues is the lowest since 1975.

Table with 3 columns: Index, Growth since, Net asset value per share. Rows include Dow Jones Industrial Index (+130%), Standard & Poor's Composite Index (+191%), and Delta Investment Company Limited (+31.78%).

The proposed tax reform, currently before Congress, benefits the consumer and service related sectors where your Company is largely invested. Equities should benefit from a period of sustained moderate growth, low inflation, and a high level of liquidity.

Advertisement for Providence Capital, featuring a logo with a classical building and the text 'THE UNIT TRUST PEOPLE'.

UNIT LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

Large table listing various unit-linked insurance investments. Columns include fund names, bid prices, offer prices, and changes. Funds listed include Delta Investment Company, Providence Capital, and various other unit trusts.

Handwritten note: 'The prices in this section refer to Thursday's trading'.

FAMILY MONEY/2

A few pages on pensions at £1.65

Cheeky practice award of the week must surely go to The Industrial Society, which has published a guide to the new regulations on disclosure of information to occupational scheme members.

More info for Sid

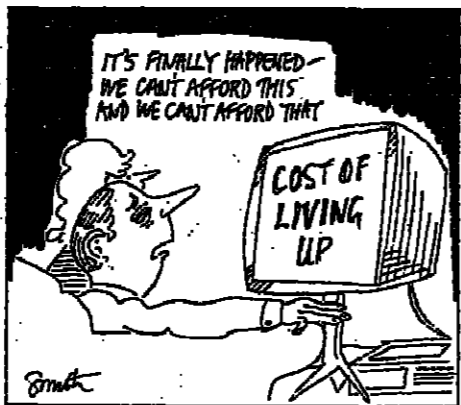
Carefully timed to attract the interest of all the British Gas "Sids", this week has witnessed a resurgence of activity among publishers of "everything you ever wanted to know about shares" type booklets.

Two of the best offerings are Rosemary Burr's The Share Book (2nd edition), which has been updated to take account of the changes involved in Big Bang and the new investor protection laws, and Neil Stapley's The Stock Market: A guide for the private investor. Also newly published and unashamedly aimed at the Christmas gift market is 500 Money Saving Ideas, with tips on saving money on shopping bills, heating costs, travel and entertainment.

For the more technically minded, Financial Times Business Information has published new editions of its "Executive Pensions and Self-Employed Pensions", both of which analyse in detail the multitude of competing pension plans which are marketed by the insurance companies.

Forest favourite

A company called Fountain Forestry, which specialises in forestry management, is currently trumpeting the virtues of its "favourite investment". Increasing numbers of individuals, companies and professional partnerships are turning to forestry investment, it says. This trend, says Fountain, is a reflection of the increasing demand and price for the end product, the taxation arrangements and what it calls the hidden bonus - the family, the bird-watcher, the fisherman, the gardener, the shooter or the other outdoor pursuits.



£500 million requests National Westminster's autumn offer of a 0.5 per cent mortgage discount for all new borrowers has attracted applications for loans totalling more than £500 million during the first two months. The offer closes at the end of December and funds lent from this year's £1.5 billion allocation already total more than £1 billion.

Point to remember The Bristol & West Building Society, called last week, said the society's expatriate offshore savings account offered a return of 11.37 per cent. We dropped a digit somewhere along the way - the figure should have been 12.37 per cent.

Cash, not cuddly toys The Yorkshire Building Society has decided to eschew the piggy banks and cuddly toys that commonly go with children's savings accounts. Instead youngsters will receive booster payments of £2.50 when savings reach targets of £50, £100, £250 and £500. In addition to the normal rate paid on the account the net return over the year on £100 (which would automatically receive two booster payments) would be 11.39 per cent, says the Yorkshire.

The Golden offer There will always be some who swim against the tide, particularly if the waters are as dangerously competitive as those of the mortgage market. As almost every other borrower raises its loan rates the Cheltenham & Gloucester has managed to undercut its own - at least for the low-risk borrower. The society has reintroduced its Golden, for endorsement of pension-linked mortgages of £50,000 or more. The rate charged is 12 per cent nominal, compared with the society's normal for endorsement mortgages of 12.25 per cent. Apart from the relatively high quality of borrower who will take out loans of £50,000 or more, the C&G protects itself by offering to lend up to a maximum of three-quarters of the property's value.

Guiding video A video guide for small businesses on unfair-dismissal legislation and good employment practice is available on free hire from the Department of Employment's small firms centres regionally. It explains industrial tribunal procedures and gives guidelines for taking on new staff.

Good names with good prospects

LLOYD'S

The opening this week of the new Lloyd's building by the Queen has focused attention not just on the controversial building but also on the question of becoming a Lloyd's name. ALISON EADIE reports

The Queen pointed out in her speech the significant contribution made by Lloyd's to Britain's balance of payments. A sum of £1.87 billion or one-sixth of total net overseas earnings by financial institutions was contributed by Lloyd's underwriters and brokers in 1985.

Although names - wealthy individuals whose fortunes underwrite Lloyd's insurance policies - doubtless take pride in Lloyd's national contribution, they are more interested in the size of the cheque they receive every year. Names usually participate or have shares in several syndicates with the amount of business they are allowed to write tied in a proportion of two to one to the amount of wealth they put up.

While it is always dangerous to talk about average returns at Lloyd's, the general trend seems to be improving markedly after a prolonged period of soft rates, fierce competition and poor returns. The 1983 results, the last to be published as Lloyd's accounts are three years in arrears, were a mixed crop. Marine syndicates earned names an average return of £1,338 for every £10,000 share on a syndicate. At the top of the ratings marine syndicate 741 paid a cheque of £4,199. At the bottom names had to pay their agents more than £2,000.

Non-marine results were poor with an average loss of £668 per £10,000 share. The worst results were horrible, even names being called on to stump up £4,000 or more. The outlook for the open years of 1984 and 1985 is one of steady improvement. Apart from special incidents, such as the high number of aeroplane crashes in 1985, which will affect aviation syndicates, all areas of business have seen rates hardening which should feed through into more profits.

It therefore follows that now is a good time to join Lloyd's, although the Jeremiahs are already predicting the next downswing in rates. About 3,000 new names have signed up to start underwriting from January 1 next year. They will receive a new booklet produced by Lloyd's, which is more comprehensive than anything produced before.

The ability to make money work twice While the 1987 names have already made their decision to join, many more will be weighing the pros and cons. The new booklet, which should be available next month, will be a great help both because of its general details and its sizeable financial facts section. The booklet contains a health warning listing some obvious and some less obvious helpful hints about the nature of Lloyd's. Most importantly, prospective names should remember that they are liable for their entire personal wealth and not just the amount they show as a basis for underwriting. The minimum is £100,000, but by today's standards this is barely a wealth test. Names in reality should have far more liquid assets before joining.

The advantages of being a name stem largely from the ability to make money work twice. Names have to deposit half the wealth they show with Lloyd's as cash, gilt-edged stocks, equities or bank guarantees. The deposit continues to earn interest or dividends while providing the base for underwriting.

The real boon from membership is for high taxpayers. Pure underwriting losses can be offset against tax meaning 60 per cent taxpayers never pay more than 40 per cent of their underwriting losses. As underwriting losses are usually covered by investment income except in rough markets, the name would make a profit anyway. The Inland Revenue still allows tax relief against underwriting profit regardless of investment income.

Non-taxpayers and those without the ability to recoup money from other means should question hard whether they are the right material to join. It is possible to join and run into several years of losses before making a profit.

As membership alone is fairly pricey - there is a £3,000 entrance fee, an annual subscription of 0.85 per cent of business written and an annual contribution to the Lloyd's central fund of 0.45 per cent of business written in the previous year - all names should have a good cushion against bad times.

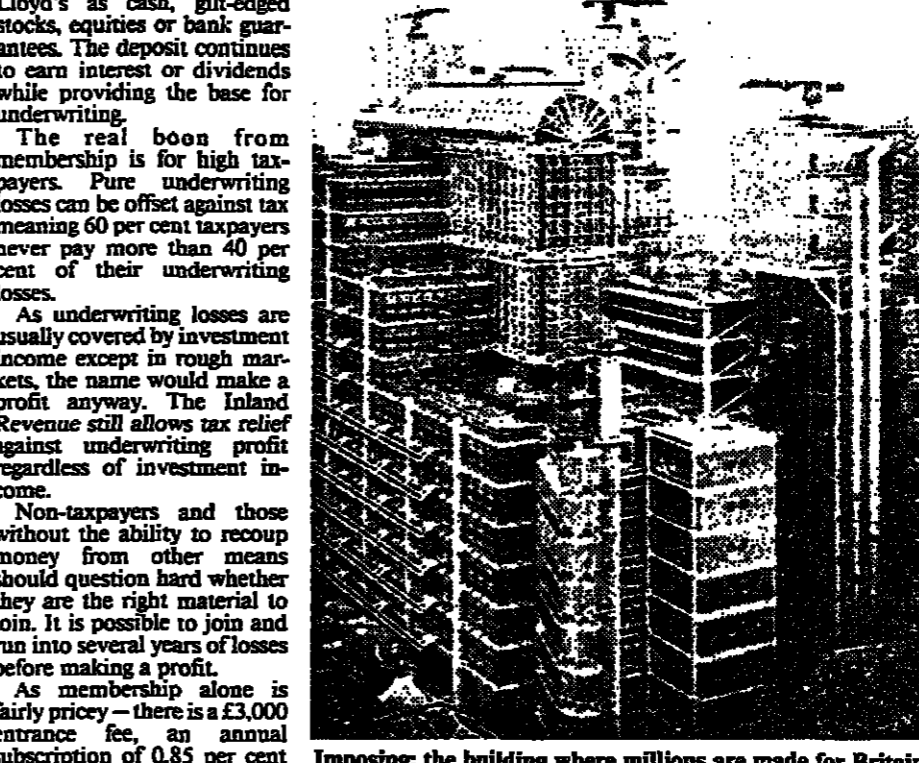
A good spread among syndicates writing different classes of business is also a hedge against downturn in one market. The present thinking is 45 per cent on marine syndicates, 35 per cent on non-marine, 10 per cent on aviation and 10 per cent on motor. A limit of 10 per cent of a name's total underwriting capacity on any one syndicate is also considered prudent. A further hedge is to take out stop-loss insurance policies which limit the effect of bad losses.

The choice of agent is crucial and is the hardest to make, because so much depends on personal recommendation and personal impressions. Some names may feel more comfortable with a members' agent, which does not run syndicates. Others may want to be part of a larger members' and managing agency group.

Finally, the inquiry into the adequacy of investor protection at Lloyd's being conducted by Sir Patrick Neill may recommend changes in the arrangements for names. First sight of the inquiry's findings are expected just before Christmas.

It remains to be seen whether Lloyd's will have to alter its new booklet to take Sir Patrick's recommendations on board.

Imposing: the building where millions are made for Britain



Imposing: the building where millions are made for Britain

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LIVED OFFER PRICE

IN EUROPE, IT TAKES EXPERIENCE TO PUT THINGS IN PROPORTION.

Europe has got a lot going for it. In recent years, European governments have become more concerned with boosting industry and encouraging the development of newer, more efficient plants. And as a result, European company profits have begun to rise substantially.

But it stands to reason that, from now on, the prospects for substantial capital growth - from whatever size of company - are more likely to be with those European shares which have not yet been discovered and traded up by the average institutional buyer. That's where Henderson's European Trusts, and in particular the Henderson European Smaller Companies Trust, come in.

SMALLER COMPANIES ARE NOW CATCHING UP

In any bull market, larger companies move first and smaller companies catch up later. This has happened in Europe. If other markets are a guide, it could continue for quite some time.

However, it takes an investment manager with depth of experience and a wide range of contacts across Europe to be able to pinpoint genuine European growth stocks ahead of the field. Those are exactly the kind of shares which you will find in the Henderson European Smaller Companies Trust's portfolio.

LONG EXPERIENCE IN EUROPE

Henderson has been managing investments internationally for over 50 years. We have over £5.2 billion under management. We have been investing in Europe for over 15 years and now manage well over £750 million across all the European stockmarkets.

ALREADY UP 109% SINCE LAUNCH

Since its launch on 28th January 1985, the Henderson European Smaller Companies Trust has shown an increase of 109% on an offer to bid basis including net re-invested income. (17.11.86).

To Henderson Unit Trust Management Ltd., Dealing Department, 5 Rayleigh Road, Hatten, Brentwood, Essex CM11 1AA. We wish to invest... (11.5 p) per unit and enclose a cheque payable to Henderson Unit Trust Management Limited. If you wish to have net income reinvested please tick

Mr/Ms/Ms/Ms Title (in full) _____ (in full) _____ Surname _____ Address _____ Postcode _____ Date _____ Signature _____ My Professional Adviser is _____ This offer is not available to residents of the Republic of Ireland.

HENDERSON EUROPEAN SMALLER COMPANIES TRUST HENDERSON UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD.

A comparison of the Oppenheimer International Growth Trust portfolio at 1st June 1986 and 1st November 1986, an interval of six months.

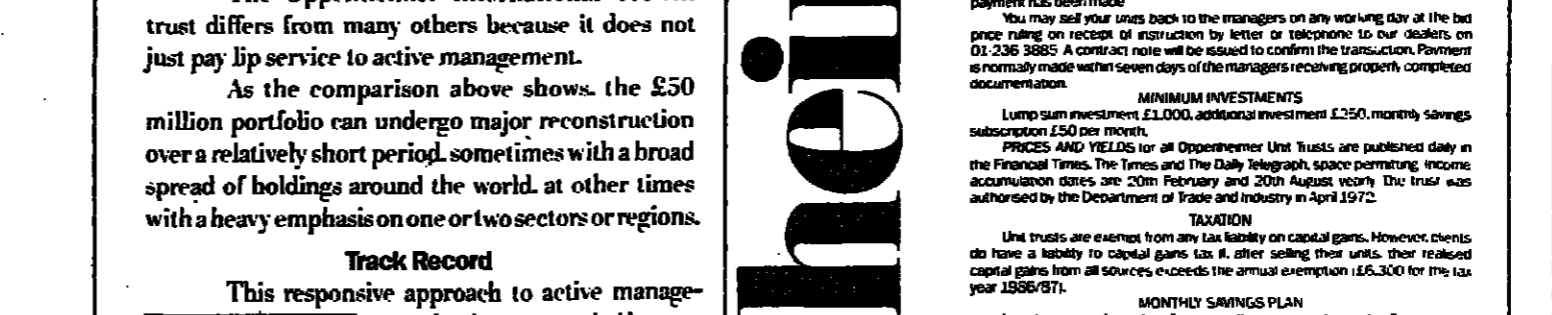
An actively managed international fund.

Recently world stockmarkets have been rewarding for investors. Many unit trusts investing in specific countries or sectors have performed well. Some investors have sought to maximise performance by switching from one country to the next using these more specialist trusts. However making money from switching unit trusts is becoming more difficult in the present uncertain markets. Some professionals are beginning to advise caution. In today's stockmarkets the chance for further growth is best gained by stockpicking around the world. Active management is required to take full advantage of opportunities because they can be hard to find and short lived. The Oppenheimer International Growth trust differs from many others because it does not just pay lip service to active management. As the comparison above shows, the £50 million portfolio can undergo major reconstruction over a relatively short period, sometimes with a broad spread of holdings around the world, at other times with a heavy emphasis on one or two sectors or regions.

Track Record This responsive approach to active management has been rewarded by consistent performance over the short, medium and long term. The fund will take prudent risks in the search for above average returns. This aggressive strategy may result in the price of units going down as well as up, but should provide substantial rewards in the medium to long term.

About Oppenheimer We are a U.K. unit trust management company with over £250m under management. Last year our European Growth Trust was the top performing of all authorised unit trusts in the U.K. Our range of 10 unit trusts have all made money for investors over the last year.

How to invest To invest simply complete the coupon and send it with your cheque, minimum £1,000, to SOURCE: PLANNED SAVINGS. All figures other than net income reinvested to 1st November 1986.



Value of £1,000 invested over the periods shown to 1.11.86* 1 year £1,457 2 years £1,726 3 years £2,015 5 years £4,569 7 years £6,937 10 years £10,836

GENERAL INFORMATION OBJECTIVE: Could growth from international investments in whatever country and market sector provide the greatest potential... CHARGES: Initial charge of 5.25%... MONTHLY SAVINGS PLAN: Investors may also subscribe in monthly instalments... MANAGERS: Oppenheimer Trust Management Limited... TRUSTEES: Lloyd's Bank Plc... THE OPPENHEIMER INTERNATIONAL GROWTH TRUST: To Marketing Department Oppenheimer Trust Management Ltd... SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

TARGET EUROPEAN SPECIAL SITUATIONS FUND

A net return of over 125% to original investors, since launch*

The Fund was created to enable investors to participate in the fast expanding European equity markets with the identification of "Special Situations" as the guiding investment principle. We are delighted to be able to report that the net return to original investors, since launch on 19th April 1985, has fully justified the optimism we then expressed.

STOCK SELECTION

The Fund looks to provide investors with an opportunity to benefit from the growth in European markets and the potential to substantially outperform them.

■ **'Special Situations':** The fund manager selects companies for the portfolio where exceptional circumstances suggest that the share price is too low relative to the market.

■ **Undervalued Stockmarkets:** Investments will also be made in particular stockmarkets when they appear to be undervalued compared to other markets or when share prices in general do not appear to reflect potential growth in earnings.

THE NEXT ADVANCE

After a dull start this year, European economies are now strengthening. The outlook for 1987 suggests a continuation of firm domestically-led growth. We are now beginning to witness the beneficial effects of falling oil prices, lower interest rates and negligible inflation on consumer spending. Companies are increasing their capital to finance future growth and domestic cash flows rising sharply in response to the increasing popularity of equity investment. Target European Special Situations Fund is ideally positioned to take advantage of these developments.

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*Source: OFAL statistics. All figures quoted are offer to bid, net income reinvested, in 10th November 1986.



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The minimum initial investment in Target European Special Situations Fund is £500. Subsequent investments may be made of £100 or more. Units are dealt daily and the price and yield is published daily in the Financial Times and Times newspapers. Applications will be acknowledged. A contract note will be despatched on receipt of your application and a certificate for the units you hold will be issued around 42 days after they are purchased. Units can be sold back to the Managers at a price not less than the bid price calculated in accordance with department of trade regulations and a cheque will be despatched within 30 days of receipt of signed certificate.

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A broader view of Amex

In its annual report, American Express announces its ambition: 'To be the world leader in financial and travel services.' How will that be achieved here? John Roberts explains in his second article on the changing role of financial institutions



Growing concern: the London office block where American Express is based. Thinking positive: John Stuart, right



From his office on the 22nd floor of a central London office block, the chief general manager, John Stuart, has a commanding view, overlooking, for instance, the private gardens of Buckingham Palace. But his vision of how American Express will participate in the changes now sweeping Britain's financial services seems limited. Opportunity is not lacking. Nor could you accuse American Express of being inflexible and too set in its ways. Indeed, criticism of the company on the other side of the Atlantic has been largely that the group has too frequently changed its mind. Of the decision to sell an interest in cable systems, the

whose balance-sheet ratios were every bit as strong. He told me: "When we package up an offer we talk to the supplier so that we are offering something we know is suitable to the needs of our card members as a group. But products can become commodities. Competitors can design the same product and then choose to undercut on price. We are doing it on a very selective scale to a particular small section of the population, so we are not in the economics of mass marketing. We are not on the marginal pricing end of the business. It may be in our interest to move into the provision of insurance."

Insurance offers with statements

report for the last full financial year admitted: "Using 20/20 hindsight, it was probably a mistake for us to invest in cable systems. Their potential as a distribution system for financial and travel services never panned out."

The company also sold 59 per cent of the property-liability insurance group, Fireman's Fund.

American Express card holders will be familiar with the efforts to sell them insurance with shoals of promotional literature - unkindly known by some as "junk mail" - accompanying their monthly statements.

Though these leaflets extol the policies from various companies as very favourable opportunities available to card members, the rates quoted are no different from those quoted generally by the same companies for the same policies. My own monitoring over a number of years has shown that never did the policy offered represent the best value. Exactly the same cover was to be had at lower premium rates elsewhere.

Mr Stuart did not dispute this, but said: "We are concerned to market reliable insurance products, so we do not take risks on the provider side."

I pointed out that the comparisons I had made were with companies of standing

There, American Express is being forced into a decision. While admitting the scope for it, Mr Stuart has no immediate plans to deal in shares through those travel agency outlets in prime shopping centres and only "might" promote mutual funds to some card-holders. "We have introduced some gold card holders to Shearson Lehman," he said.

The Financial Services Act will require the group either to sell the policies of a single insurance company, declaring

Card-holders could double in a few years

itself tied to that, or to be a broker, in which case it might use proper efforts to give best advice regardless of whether it has signed up a deal with the particular company.

Moreover, its advice would need to be directed to every individual's circumstances, rather than those of card-holders as a class.

It is likely either to buy an insurance company or to set up its own, perhaps as a subsidiary of the insurance business in the United States.

Mr Stuart is much more positive about how American Express will be pursuing more UK customers not only in terms of increasing the number of us holding the green and gold cards but in various forms of lending. And here Amex is highly competitive.

Already a million-strong, the green card-holding population could double in

the next few years as American Express for the past two years has moved down-market to swell the numbers both of holders and of outlets accepting the green card.

Originally, in 1963, the company was represented as the prerogative of the senior executive, engaged in international business, but it is now being more heavily promoted for personal spending by younger people on their way up in the world - the "yuppies".

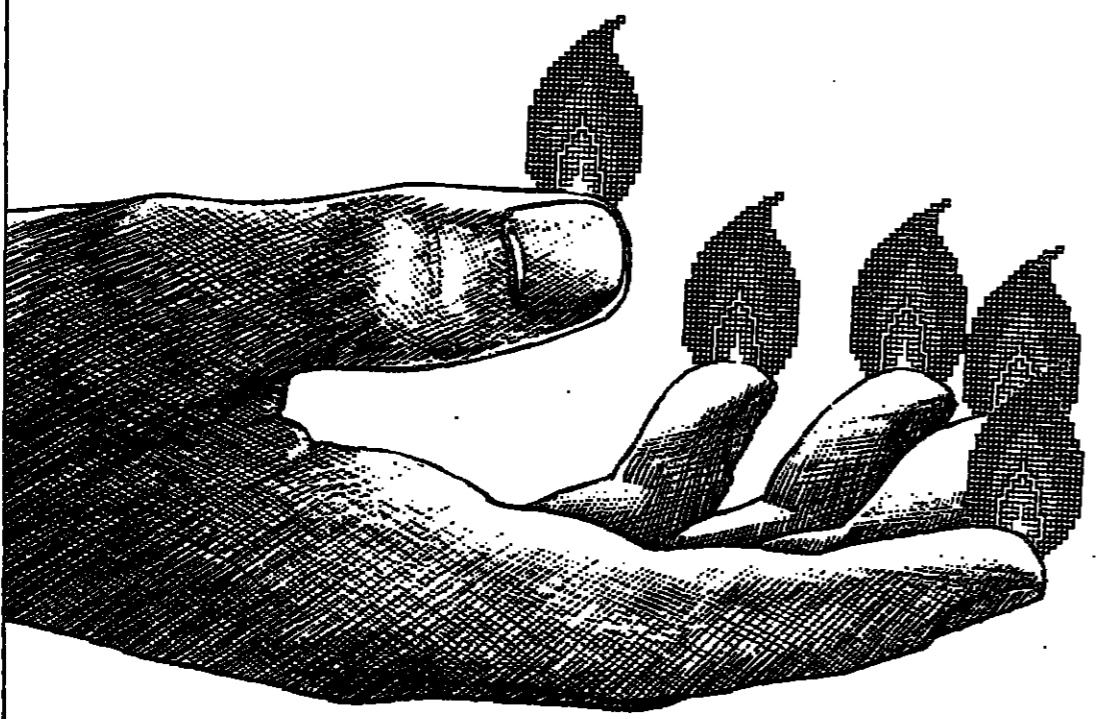
At the same time, instead of being confined, for instance, to the more expensive *haute cuisine* restaurants, it is now accepted, for instance, at Little Chef, which are more noted as catering for families and commercial travellers than gourmets.

Mr Stuart said: "The lending side is our main development area. We have the most credit-worthy customers in the country. A natural evolution from the use of a charge (not credit) card for travel was to offer instalment loans for holidays. From there it is blossoming out carefully into mortgages. And whereas it is not a credit card - the account sent every month must be settled in full - the gold card now includes the automatic right to

an overdraft of at least £10,000 at Lloyds and some other banks. More can be arranged according to individual circumstances and the interest rate is set at 2.5 per cent above the bank's base rate, the attractiveness of which will depend on the state of your relations and negotiating ability with your existing bank manager.

Furthermore, for all card-holders the autonomous fellow subsidiary, American Express Bank, now offers an unsecured overdraft of between £1,000 and £5,000 on completion of a simple form and without the need for an interview. The charge is equivalent to a 19.5 annual percentage rate, which is about 7 per cent below what you would pay to get similar amounts of money from Access or Barclaycard.

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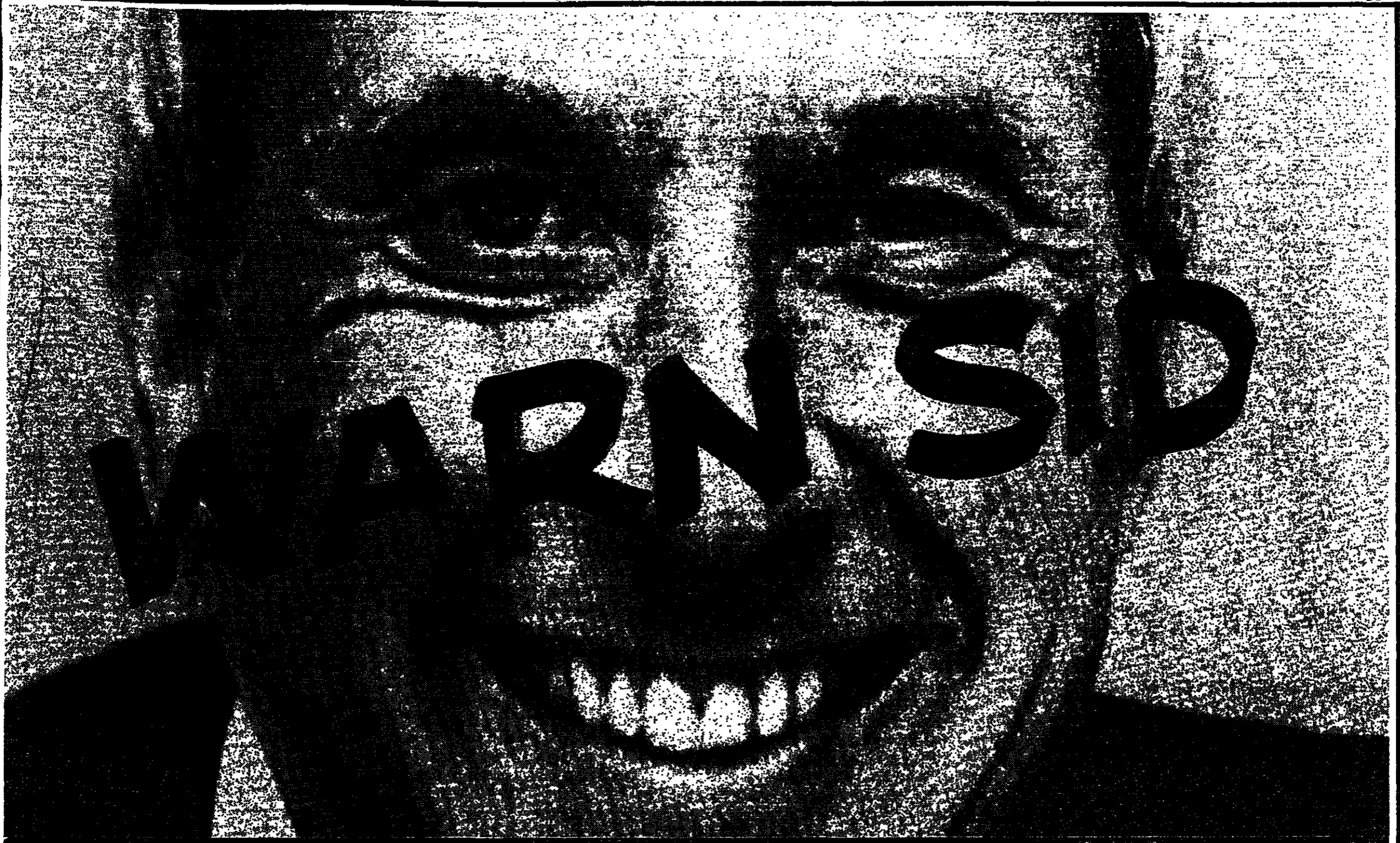
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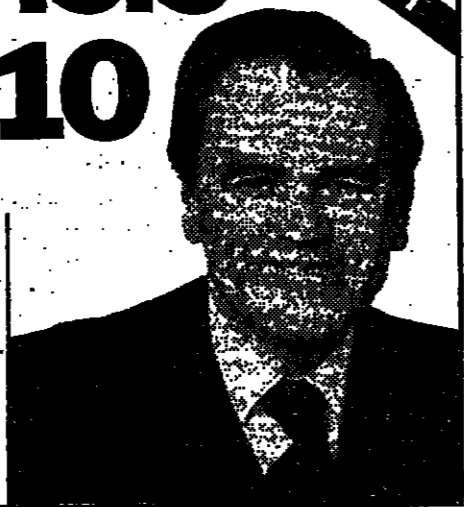


INSIDER TRADING: THE INSIDE STORY

Ivan Boesky, fined \$100 million for crooked stock trading: now the shock-waves are reaching the City.

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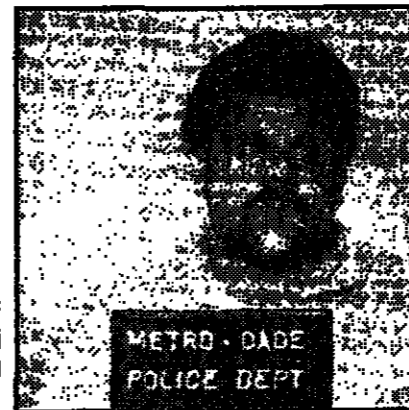
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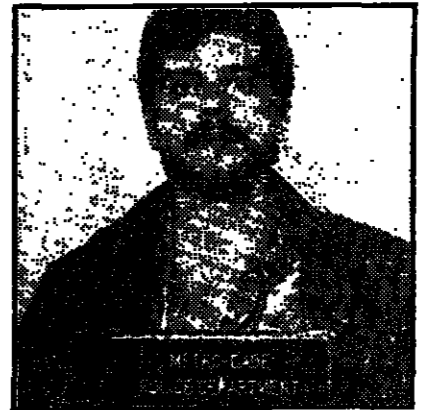
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FAMILY MONEY/4

How the gold bugs were bitten

It has not been a good week for gold bugs, those fans of the mystic metal who have been telling us that a new bull market is here to stay, reports RICHARD LANDER

After some years of silence, the bugs finally began to be heard again in mid-year as the gold price started to move up swiftly from the \$350 an ounce level. Various reasons were cited as gold broke through the \$400 barrier to touch \$440 in early October. They included a huge increase in demand from Japan for the Emperor Hirohito commemorative coin; worries over a resurgence in inflation; apparent cracks in the long-running bull phase on the world's equity markets; and renewed fears over the ability of the Third World's debtors to repay their loans.

No one ever accused a gold bug of running out of arguments! On top of this came South Africa's well publicized political turmoil, by far the West's largest source of gold. The reasoning went that the South Africans might retaliate to sanctions by cutting off supplies of platinum, which

contributes far less than gold to the Pretoria coffers but over which the country has a far greater supply stranglehold. Platinum prices, therefore, soared above \$600, dragging gold in their wake, and ironically for proponents of sanctions, giving a much-needed boost to South Africa's economy.

But since October, precious metals prices have started to slip back, and this week saw gold slide below \$400 and platinum below \$500. Once again, the two metals had shown their ability to make monkeys out of inauspicious investors, particularly those who leave it late to jump on bandwagons.

There are still plenty of people around ruing the day they bought kruggerands when gold hit a record \$850 in 1980. Keith Smith, managing director of Moccata & Goldsmid, one of the large London bullion trading houses, says the market has simply run out of steam because the flow of good news — such as the purchases by Japan — has dried up.

"Gold was back in fashion for a while, but now people are slightly bored," he said. "The South African problems are getting no real publicity and it now seems apparent there will

be no disruption to platinum supplies. "It doesn't seem that anything tragic is going to happen."

Mr Smith is forecasting a fairly dull period for gold with little price movement either way.

"It should claw back over \$400 but I can't see it getting to \$450," he said. "The week before last we saw good selling at \$410 and I would have thought it unlikely that selling programme had been completed." But, as he admits, the gold market can be full of surprises, and the metal reacts as much to investors' emotions as to the more fundamental factors of supply and demand. On both scores, believes David Williamson, of

'Demand good, the omens look good'

metal traders Shearson Lehman Brothers, gold still has a long way to go. He is sticking by his mid-year prediction that the current market phase will take gold up to \$500.

"Demand has been good, especially for the new American 'Eagle' coins, and although there is talk of increased Soviet supplies, I

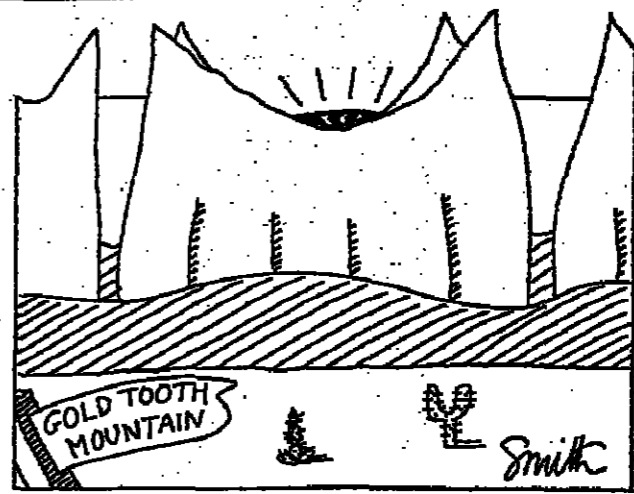
don't think they'll want to break the market," he said.

As for the more intangible factors in the gold equation, Mr Williamson said the omens also look good, pointing to the Ivan Boesky insider trading scandal which gave the New York and London stock markets the jitters this week.

He said: "There seems to be enough disappointing news coming in the financial markets to make people look at the alternative haven which is gold."

A common explanation for the recent downward trend in gold among investment advisers is that gold had risen too far, too fast, and was due for a correction.

The size of the drop has surprised some fund managers. "We thought it would hold above \$400 and we're not quite sure why it collapsed," said Peter Bucher, of Waverley Asset Management. But he is encouraged by the way gold has stayed above the \$385 "danger zone", which price chart followers consider crucial.



fund, started in February 1984, spent a long time on the wrong side of the tracks as the Australian dollar tumbled and the gold price did nothing.

In July, the fund received one of those double miracles that investment managers are said to pray for. The gold price started rising and the Australian dollar began to recover against the pound. The result: Waverley's offer price almost doubled from 15.3p to 29.2p by the end of October.

The consolidation in the gold price has had an effect since then and the offer price is now 28.4p. A sharp drop in share prices last Monday was too sudden to avoid, especially as the markets in Australian gold firms, some of which are little more than one man and a plot of land, can be very difficult to get out of

quickly when things turn sour. Another manager who has put a good deal of his fund's money in Australia is Rupert Carney, of Henderson Administration. He points out the shares are better value than North American producers and are devoid of the political risk of the South African mines.

Another plus point is that a much-mooted Australian gold tax now seems likely to be dropped or introduced in a diluted form.

Mr Carney also remains optimistic, saying: "I expect gold will get back to \$400 within a few weeks and the shares should perform well when the price has clearly bottomed out. There is quite a lot of money waiting on the sidelines to go into both the metal and the shares."

The 25 'Penny' Shares most likely to double in 1987!

The Penny Share Guide is now into its ninth year of continuous publication and of course devotes all of its day and all of its research to the study of 'penny shares' — which to buy, when to leave alone and which just could be the next Polly Peck, Pentland Industries or Parkfield, all of which started life off as 'penny' shares before rising by quite literally many thousands of percent. What you may not know is that you would have read about these shares first and only in The Penny Share Guide whilst they were still 'penny' shares.

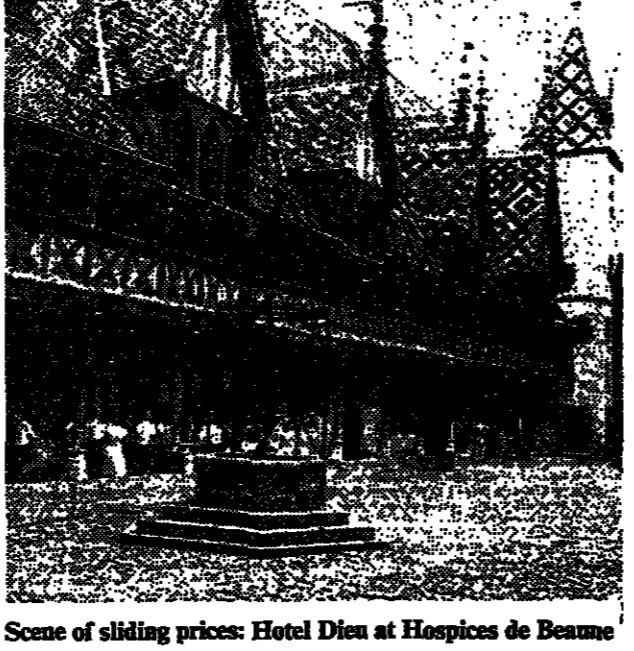
You must remember, of course, that 'penny' shares are not a place for your emergency savings, but that said, there is no doubt that the well-advised private investor can get far more mileage for his money in the 'penny' share sector of the market. For our part we have put a lot of time and effort into our selection of the 25 'Penny' Shares most likely to double in 1987 and who knows, the next Polly Peck could well be there. If you would like to see what could well be a study of major importance for the rest of this bull market, please send off for free details TODAY.

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Scene of sliding prices: Hotel Dieu at Hospices de Beaune

Top crop, but bottom prices

France's most important wine auction of the year, the Hospices de Beaune in the heart of Burgundy, showed a dramatic drop in prices last Sunday. CONAL GREGORY explains

The auction was for both red and white Burgundies from the Côte de Beaune of the 1986 vintage, which had only just completed their second fermentation in cask.

The large crop of good quality wine in Burgundy — arguably the second most important investment wine after claret — ensured both a larger volume coming under the hammer but prices not

dissimilar from those of 1983 and 1984. In both those years 688 and 636 pieces respectively (the traditional Burgundian volume) were sold at auction and only 555 last year.

Last Sunday 714 pieces were auctioned, the largest volume since 1973. Prices for the red Burgundies fell 44.65 per cent on average and by 27 per cent for the whites, an average of 41.41 per cent. Although there was keen international bidding for the Hospices wines, which are sold for charity, the prices have a persuasive effect on both the wine trade and auction prices generally for this key sector.

Claude Bouchard, head of Bouchard Père et Fils, owners of the largest area under vine in Burgundy — 92 hectares or more than 226 acres, told me before the auction that he expected a price reduction. His whites are

Japanese buyers included Sunjory and Takasymaya. Although many French houses purchase on behalf of UK agencies and clients, there was successful bidding from Switzerland (one of the major buyers of investment Burgundy), The Netherlands, Denmark, West Germany, Eire, Belgium, the United States and Italy.

Theoretically the final price per lot at the Hospices is when the candle expires but it is rare if bidding is still going briskly! This tradition was mastered by buyers on behalf of UK merchants such as James McCabe Ltd, of Belfast (purchasing Pommard, Cytrot-Chaudron), Patens of Aldermans Drive, Peterborough (purchasing Savigny-les-Beaune, Forneret), Hillfire Wine, of Gibraltar Row, Liverpool (Auxey-Duresses, Boillot), and Yorkshire Fine Wine, of Nun Monkton, York (Corton Charlotte Dumay).

For elegance it takes some beating

well balanced and show real Chardonnay fruit that promises well for six or eight years of development. The Bouchard red Burgundies had good colour and a delicacy in the Pinot Noir fruit, such as the Pommard Premier Cru and Beaune Marconnets. For elegance, his 1986 Beaune Grèves "Vigne de l'Enfant Jesus" will take some beating. For firm style, a potential auction room favourite, consider his single vineyard Nuits St Georges, Clos St Marc.

Owing to the extra crop, the French authorities have permitted an additional 20 per cent to be declared under the Appellation Contrôlée status. The two exceptions are Volnay AC and Volnay Santenots AC where the yield was reduced through heavy

hail storms on June 16. To compensate the latter, the "extra" yield permitted has been raised to 30 per cent and 80 per cent respectively. The final yield for Bouchard's red Burgundies was almost 49 hectolitres (each of 11 dozen bottles) per hectare apart from red Beaune which was 36.92 hl per hectare.

The pre-sale tastings — a marathon which attracts investors and trade buyers from around the world and included James Long, buyer for 'Grand Metropolitan' International Distillers and Vintners — indicated wines for relatively early maturity, probably within eight years. Bidding was similarly international, with a distinct presence from Japan. There were fewer North American buyers, largely on account of the value of the US dollar, now only 6.567 French francs (and 9.332 FF to sterling).

There is keen demand in the auction rooms here when Hospices wines are resold. Michael Broadbent, Master of Wine at Christie's, reports sales in the last year of such wines as Nuits St Georges, Cuvée St Georges 1969 at

£140 per dozen bottles and Neursault, Genevrières, Cuvée C. Baudot 1973 at £26 per magnum.

Merchants quoting limited stocks of Hospices wines that have been shipped include Berry Bros and Rudd (3 St James's Street, London SW1A 1EG) with 1982 Beaune, Cuvée Brunet at £11.70 per bottle and 1973 Beaune, Cuvée Nicolas Rolin at £28.50 a magnum, both including VAT.

Burgundies come under the hammer here next Wednesday at the Café Royal run by International Wine Auctions (with no buyers' premium), December 3 at Sotheby's in London, next Friday at Lacy Scott's in Bury St Edmunds and on December 4 and 18 at Christie's in London.

Coming under the hammer

£140 per dozen bottles and Neursault, Genevrières, Cuvée C. Baudot 1973 at £26 per magnum. Merchants quoting limited stocks of Hospices wines that have been shipped include Berry Bros and Rudd (3 St James's Street, London SW1A 1EG) with 1982 Beaune, Cuvée Brunet at £11.70 per bottle and 1973 Beaune, Cuvée Nicolas Rolin at £28.50 a magnum, both including VAT. Burgundies come under the hammer here next Wednesday at the Café Royal run by International Wine Auctions (with no buyers' premium), December 3 at Sotheby's in London, next Friday at Lacy Scott's in Bury St Edmunds and on December 4 and 18 at Christie's in London.

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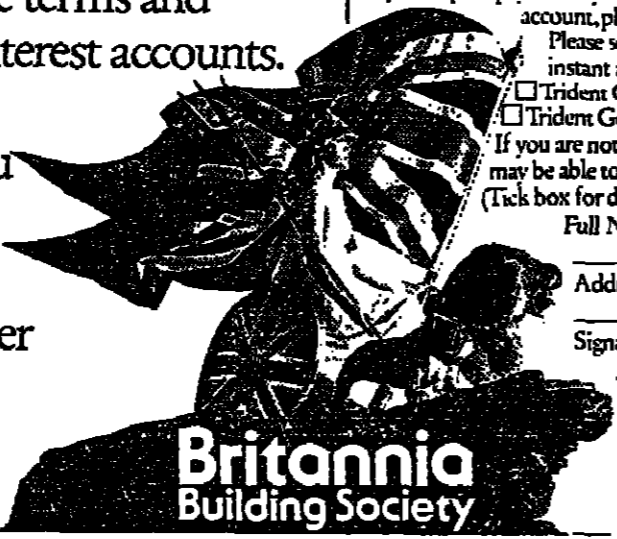
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Where there's a will there may be a snag

LEGACIES

There is nothing like a bad home-made will for keeping lawyers in clover. People can leave money to whom they wish, and provided they are sane and not under pressure when they do it. The problems come only with the ambiguities.

Ernest Digweed, a religious recluse from Portsmouth, had no doubts about where his money should go when he died. He left it all to Jesus Christ, to await his return to earth. When Mr Digweed died 10 years ago his nearest family challenged the will on the grounds that the will's provisions showed he was insane. In fact, he had been involved in a long and lucid correspondence about just where the money should be invested until Judgment Day — and the courts rejected the relations' application.

The family then had a collective headache. Under the Statute of Limitations, if money is left to a particular individual who does not appear for 80 years — like an unborn grandson, for instance — it ultimately reverts to the state.

His family tried to insure themselves against the risk of the Second Coming occurring within 80 years of Mr Digweed's death, but alas, even Lloyd's underwriters would not take the business.

Few wills contain such exotic provisions, although one man recently left his all to the Russian government. Earlier generations of "Disgusteds, Tumblebricks, Wells" may have provided their mite to reduce the National Debt, but that has died out. Leaving £50,000 to scale down the public sector borrowing requirement does not sound anything like as good.

The law generally protects your right to eccentricity. But people who have been financially dependent on you can apply to the courts for "reasonable provision" from what you have left, if they do so within six months of your demise.

Wives and families are the obvious claimants but a mis-

trepreneur or perhaps even a kept man might qualify as well, provided he or she relied on you for financial survival. But what "reasonable provision" means in practice depends very much on the details of every case.

It is lack of clarity, not lack of provision, which brings most wills to court. Stationers usually stock will forms, which are fine so long as your intentions are clear, but can cause problems otherwise. The biggest difficulties have come from wills which are completely home-made.

The phrase "all to Mother", for instance, led to one classic court case. The man who had left these final instructions had known his wife as Mother — just as his children did. But it took a court to settle that the money should go to her.

More recently, someone left a large sum to cancer research, but he combined the two main charities in the field in the name of a group he laid down should receive the money. Once again it caused expensive confusion.

The legal formalities of making a will are relatively simple. Once you have completed it, you have to sign the will in front of two witnesses who then sign it in turn in each other's presence. The simplest mistake people make is to allow someone who is to benefit from the will to act as a witness.

If that happens, he automatically loses his right to benefit from it, although it does not make the rest of the will invalid as it did in the past.

What is more, you will need an executor who winds up the estate, paying off any debts, collecting the assets and finally getting probate (or the legal right to pay out) once any tax has been paid, before he finally distributes what you have left. Solicitors will do it and so will banks, although with differing degrees of efficiency.

It can be a long and time-

consuming bore. If you choose a friend it is vital to ask him before giving him the job if he is not a beneficiary already. It is perhaps worth allowing for his trouble in what you leave. Finally, you should always date the will.

If muddle is one threat to your intentions, inflation is the other. People often make wills with what looks like generous provisions for their families and then leave a small residue elsewhere.

Inflation gnaws away at the value of most legacies and, 30 years hence, the last in the queue may collect the lion's share of what you leave. The answer is to provide legacies in terms of a proportion of the estate, and not as fixed lump sums.

The one move which invalidates any will is getting married, unless the will was clearly in "contemplation of marriage". Without that vital clause, your previous single person's will is invalid and what you leave is distributed as though you had never made a will at all.

Divorce will ensure that your ex-wife — or husband — loses any benefits and is treated as though he or she had died before you.

You can always change a will once you have made it, although once again you will need two independent witnesses to sign the amendment. Codicils — the legal version of



a PS on a letter — allow you to make gifts to extra people or organisations, without disturbing the main lines of what you have decided.

But major changes of mind need a new will, which should state that it is revoking the old one — and, above all, be dated.

Incidentally, the estate of anyone who dies intestate and without any dependants goes to the Crown.

Finally, the people who are going to benefit should know where the will has been kept, when they need to see it. The crucial point before making a will is to buy a copy of the new *Which?* publication (Wills and Probate, £6.95, from bookshops or from the Consumers' Association at PO Box 44, Hertford SG14 1SH).

It provides a good, relatively simple guide to the whole business.

How much will solicitors charge for drafting a will? It depends on how long it takes and how complex it is, but many outside London treat wills as a loss leader and will keep charges down to perhaps £35 or £40. But it may cost £100 or more in London.

But the will is often only part of the story. Tax may rear its ugly head once your estate is worth £71,000 or more. Inheritance tax does not apply to what you leave to your wife, or to a charity, but leaving

money to your wife may well mean that it is not so much a tax avoided as a tax postponed. It will be payable on her estate when she dies in turn.

You can give away £3,000 to any one person every year without coming into the tax net at all and make as many small gifts of up to £250 as you like. After that, generosity and survival are two tax-beaters, although splitting your estate with your wife can also cut your family's eventual tax bills dramatically.

But if you are thinking of such measures, you will need to get professional advice anyway.

'A great step forward' for rights of shoppers

Consumers will no longer have to prove a manufacturer's negligence when claiming for damages for faulty products, if the Government has its way.

Under the Consumer Protection Bill, published this week by the Department of Trade and Industry, producers will be automatically liable for damages caused by their duff goods.

But, says the department, it has to be clear that the defect in the goods caused the damage and this will place "a heavy but necessary burden of proof" on the consumer.

Nevertheless, the Bill has been welcomed by the Consumers' Association "as a great step forward".

The association comments: "Suppliers will be responsible for insuring that the goods they sell are safe." Under the Bill, producers, importers, and "own branders" are liable for damages.

Yet the association is worried by an exclusion from the Bill which its legal adviser, David Tench, describes as "absurd". Manufacturers will be able to escape liability for "development risks".

If it can be proved that at the time of manufacture the state of knowledge to pinpoint a defect did not exist, then the producer would not be liable.

The department says this provision was inserted to protect product innovators who did everything reasonable to ensure a new product was safe.

But Mr Tench counters: "Two of the most innovative countries in the world, the



David Tench: 'absurd' United States and France, have strict liability laws."

The Bill's scope covers death or personal injury or damage exceeding £275, with no maximum limit on damages set. But it also excludes from its jurisdiction utilities, other than gas, water and electricity, primary agricultural goods and professional liabilities.

Yet the Bill will also make it an offence to sell goods which do not comply to a general safety requirement.

This replaces the current system of regulations for particular types of goods, thought to be inflexible as new products are continually appearing.

Rod Morrison

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THE ELITE FUND from REGENCY

FAMILY MONEY 17

Lessons from a company that raised £1m

BES

The Business Expansion Scheme is not a passport to riches for investors, even if they do get tax relief of up to 60 per cent on their investments.

LAWRENCE LEVER explains

The latest salutary warning that tax breaks do not guarantee profit comes in the managers' report on the Buckmaster Development Fund.

These companies accounted for £483,600 of the original £1 million. In other words 48 per cent of the investments have been written off.

One of the surviving companies - in which £76,800 was invested - is in difficulties. According to the managers' report its survival "depends upon a major infusion of funds but as of this date we are

unable to predict whether support will be forthcoming".

Eric Edghill, one of the managers of the fund, says he is "working very, very hard to make something for the investors". Mr Edghill, who was not involved until 18 months ago, is "optimistic that people will get their money back ultimately, taking into account tax relief".

Fortunately there is no

overlap in the investments between this Buckmaster fund and a second one launched in 1985.

There will not be any more Buckmaster BES funds in the foreseeable future. In common with some, but by no means all, BES fund sponsors, it has not found it economic to market BES funds.

The Buckmaster report does not contain a statement of how much in expenses and fees the managers have received.

According to Mr Edghill, these are very modest. The fund took a 5 per cent front-end load fee and charges nothing else to the fund. The investee companies pay it directors' fees if they have a Buckmaster director on the board.

The reasons for the failures are, Mr Edghill says, many and various. It seems in the case of one of the companies

that it did not get the sales that its business plan originally suggested.

Other BES funds have suffered liquidations and BES investors are warned of the dangers of investing in unquoted companies. However, to lose close on half of investors' money in two and a half years is a sorry record.

Company aims to develop a chain

Meanwhile, for prospective BES investors not deterred by the risks, County Inns, a pub venture sponsored by Baltic Asset Management, is looking for up to £2.5 million. The minimum amount it needs to get off the ground is £500,000.

It has already exchanged contracts for two premises and wants to develop a chain. It has close links with the Wiltshire Brewery Company,

which operates its own brewery and recently raised £2.7 million itself from a number of City institutions.

Two directors of County Inns are directors of WBC, which will receive an annual management fee of £75,000 as well as supplying drinks to County. Philip Keane, from Baltic, says of the close links with WBC: "We actually think they are an advantage to County Inns. The company will have an independent managing director and other independent representatives on the board." He stresses that the pubs will not be obliged to take only WBC beer.

The management of County Inns, including WBC, is putting its money where its mouth is with a £243,000 investment in the company. There are options over 27.5 per cent of the company for the management and sponsors, exercisable at a minimum 75 per cent premium.

This means that investors will retain the benefit of the first 75 per cent of uplift in the value of their shares before suffering any dilution.

The prospectus gives no figures for the trading record of the two premises for which County Inns has exchanged contracts. Mr Keane says last annual turnover in one

case was more than £350,000 and in the other more than £300,000.

He will not say what profits they both made, but says he is confident County Inns will maximize its potential.

The minimum investment you can make is £500. Details are available from Baltic Asset Management, 25-26 Albermarle Street, London W1X 4AD (01-493 9899).

Commissions could fall to end the debate

One of the still outstanding and most controversial aspects of the new financial services rules - the question of commissions you pay to intermediaries on life insurance and unit trusts - came a step closer to being resolved this week.

The Life and Unit Trust Regulatory Organisation (LAUTRO) has outlined the rates of commission which it considers intermediaries should charge.

They do not appear to herald a huge reduction in commissions. But surrender values - the amount a policy is worth when cashed in early - should increase as a result.

LAUTRO is proposing to limit commissions to 25 per cent of the premiums paid. On regular premium policies the 25 per cent would be charged for an initial period followed by a flat rate charge of 2.5 per cent on all premiums paid until the policy matures.

LAUTRO is suggesting that intermediaries can earn a maximum of 3 per cent commission on sales of unit trusts - in line with current market practice.

This will also apply where an intermediary switches his client from one unit trust into another.

For single-premium bonds LAUTRO suggests a 4 per cent initial charge followed by a charge of 0.5 per cent in the following four years, as opposed to the current one-off commission payment of 5 per cent.

Under rules put forward by the Securities and Investments Board, intermediaries who sell life insurance and unit trusts of companies which subscribe to the LAUTRO agreement will not have to disclose to investors the amount of commission they are earning. Instead they will be subject only to "soft disclosure" requirements, telling investors that their commissions are in line with the LAUTRO agreement.

Intermediaries will have to disclose only the amount of commission they are earning

High value for surrender

where they sell a policy from a company which is not party to the LAUTRO agreement.

The practice of spreading premiums over the life of policies means that, broadly speaking, commissions on endowment and whole life assurance will be slightly lower for short-term policies and higher than currently paid on longer term policies.

Spreading commissions over the life of the policy should also lead to higher surrender values. Commissions on the short-term self-employed policies will be considerably reduced.

And, in the case of term assurance, commissions will be marginally less on longer terms and more for short-term policies.

LL

Insider dealing should not panic the outsiders

SHARES

"Insider dealing" is the buzz phrase in the City. There are now two cases of suspected insider dealing under investigation by the Department of Trade and Industry.

There is also the case of Ivan Boesky, the flamboyant Wall Street financier, who is paying a \$100 million penalty for the offence in the United States and who had substantial investments in Britain.

It is hardly the kind of news to inspire confidence in the stock market at a time when the number of private shareholders is rising so rapidly under the influence of the Government's privatization programme.

For several reasons, however, there is little cause for private investors to worry unduly.

Insider dealing - profiting from dealing in shares on the strength of privileged information - is usually open only to those involved in the financial world.

There is a lot of it about

The indications are that there is a lot of it about. But most of the time it probably affects only specific stocks for very short periods of time.

The typical stamping ground for the insider dealer is the take-over bid.

It is amazing how often the share price of a target company rises on the stock market just before the bid is announced.

But insider dealing probably has no long-term influence on share prices, which will continue to be determined by fundamental investment

values such as the company's earnings performance.

Insider dealers dodge in and out of shares. The ordinary stock market investor should, most of the time, be looking for relatively long-term investments.

He or she may want to take advantage of temporary blips in the share price - however inexplicable they are - to buy or sell, but they are unlikely to make a difference to the long-term performance of his shares.

Naturally, no innocent person likes to be taken advantage of by those unscrupulous enough to misuse their privileged position.

But in the nature of the stock market, most insider dealers will be trading with

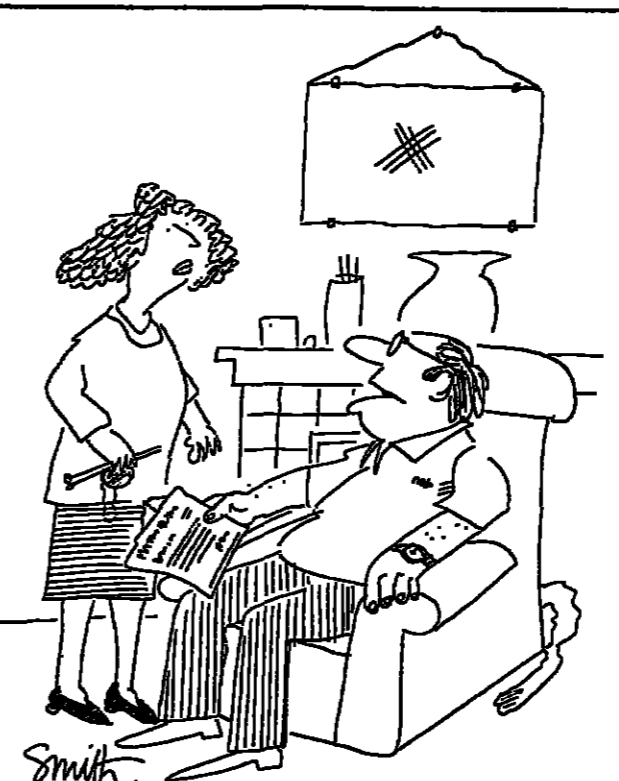
other professional investors rather than private investors, who own a relatively small proportion of the market.

The worst that may happen is that you sell your shares for a smaller profit than you might have done if you had known what the insider dealer who bought them knew.

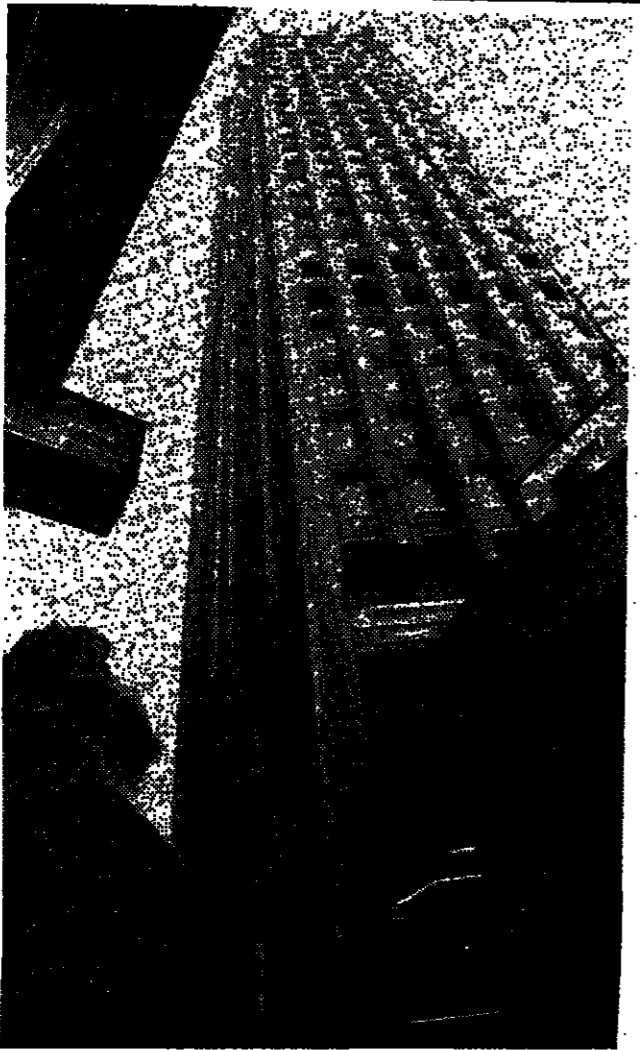
You can at least calculate exactly what you are making on the deal before you do it.

It is not as bad as being sold a faulty washing machine by a dishonest salesman. And it is certainly not as bad as being sold dud or fictitious shares by those dishonest share salesmen who cold-call unwary investors from Amsterdam or Madrid.

Richard Thomson
Banking Correspondent



Smith



The Stock Exchange: no worries from those insider deals

BASE LENDING RATES

Table listing base lending rates for various banks and financial institutions, including ABN, Adam & Company, BCCI, Citibank Savings, Consolidated Crds, Co-operative Bank, C. Hoare & Co, Hong Kong & Shanghai, Lloyds Bank, Nat Westminster, Royal Bank of Scotland, TSB, and Citibank NA.



Ivan Boesky: fined heavily

Advertisement for Prudential's North American Trust, European Trust, and Japanese Trust. The headline reads: 'CUT A HOLE IN THIS PAPER. YOU MIGHT MAKE A MINT.' The text describes the performance of these trusts and provides contact information for Prudential Unit Trust Managers Limited.

Form for requesting more information about Prudential Unit Trusts. It includes fields for Name, Address, Postcode, and a section for 'Please send me more information about' with checkboxes for 'Holland Unit Trusts' and 'Japan Unit Trusts'. The Prudential logo is also present.

Large advertisement for Clerical Medical International Income Trust. The headline reads: 'HIGH AND RISING INCOME FROM THE WORLD'S LEADING ECONOMIES PLUS CAPITAL GROWTH'. The ad describes the trust's objective, a flexible portfolio, strength in management, and how to invest. It includes a coupon for requesting more information and a deadline: 'ONLY SIX DAYS LEFT FOR 1% BONUS UNITS'. Contact information for Clerical Medical Unit Trusts is provided.

Affray sentencing guidelines

Regina v Keys and Others Before Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Taylor and Mr Justice Rose

Guidance on sentencing in cases of affray was given by Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, when giving judgment on appeals against sentence by appellants involved in the 'conterham riots' in October 1985 at the Broadwater Farm Estate, north London...

The appellants were Paul Keys, aged 23, and Lester Sween, aged 21, who were sentenced to 18 months imprisonment and five years' youth custody by the Recorder of London...

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, giving the judgment of the court, said that concerning the appeals in respect of affray, the facts constituting affray and the possible degrees of participation in it were so variable and covered such a wide area of behaviour that it was difficult to formulate any helpful sentencing framework...

The crime of affray might range from the comparatively trivial rowdy scene spontaneously arising, for example, outside a public house at closing time, terrifying for a short time but soon over, up to the sort of lengthy pitched battle going on for hours which took place at Broadwater Farm...

Their Lordships were not concerned in the instant case with the level of sentence to be imposed in the case of the less serious spontaneously arising cases of affray.

In the case of a very serious affray, where it was clear that there was at least some measure of preparation, organization and central direction, the organizers and ringleaders, if they were detected - which would seldom be the case - could expect heavy sentences...

Solicitors: B. M. Birnberg & Co.

Wider justification defence available

Maxwell v Pressdram Ltd and Another (No 2) Before Lord Justice Nourse and Lord Justice Ralph Gibson

Where a publication alleged that the plaintiff in a libel action had paid for the foreign travel expenses of the Labour Party leader and that allegation was found to be incorrect, the defendants were still entitled to put before the jury a defence of justification on the wider ground that the plaintiff had nevertheless made substantial contributions to the Labour Party with an improper motive.

The Court of Appeal so held in an interlocutory appeal by the defendants, Pressdram Ltd and Mr Richard Ingram against rulings by Mr Justice Simon Brown in a trial before a jury, in a libel action brought against the defendants by the plaintiff, Mr Robert Maxwell.

The court allowed the appeal against the judge's first ruling that the defendants' plea of justification was not supported by evidence fit to go to the jury, but dismissed the appeal against the judge's second ruling that there was sufficient evidence in support of the plaintiff's claim to exemplary damages to justify the leaving of that part of the claim to the jury.

On November 21 the jury found the libel proved and awarded £55,000 damages and costs to Mr Maxwell.

Mr Andrew Bateson, QC and Mr Desmond Browne for the defendants; Mr Richard Hartley, QC and Mr Thomas Shields for Mr Maxwell.

LORD JUSTICE RALPH GIBSON said that the plaintiff's claim was for damages for two libels published in Private Eye in articles on July 12 and 26, 1985.

The plaintiff alleged that the first article contained words which in their natural and ordinary meaning meant and were understood to mean that the plaintiff had acted or was acting as paymaster for trips made by Mr Neil Kinnock, the leader of the Labour Party, to East Africa, Central America and Moscow, and was thereby guilty of bribery or attempted bribery.

The second article included a cartoon showing what was intended to be understood as the likeness of the plaintiff's face in the horn of a gramophone and Mr Kinnock's face on an attentive dog.

With reference to the second libel, the plaintiff alleged that the words and cartoon in their natural and ordinary meaning and/or by way of legal innuendo, bore or were understood to bear the meaning that the plaintiff was guilty of bribery or attempted bribery.

The reference to innuendo was made by the special facts of the first article having been printed and, it was suggested, read by many readers of the second.

The defendants denied that the words published or were understood to bear or were capable of bearing the meaning alleged by the plaintiff or any meaning defamatory of him.

Further or alternatively, the defendants asserted that "the words complained of... are true in substance and in fact". The particulars relied upon in support of the plea of justification were set out in several sub-paragraphs, but the defendants had called no evidence in support of them.

What remained of the plea of justification was that the plaintiff had made available and offered to make available to the Labour Party, funds under his control by way of cash donations and financial support for particular projects and purposes.

It was also formally admitted that the plaintiff had at all times sought considerable publicity for himself and his activities, including his political activities in supporting the Labour Party and that when the plaintiff acquired the control of Mirror Group Newspapers Ltd in 1984 he fulfilled a long-standing ambition of his to become a national newspaper proprietor.

As a result of the defendants' failure to produce evidence in support of the more important allegations in their particulars of justification (The Times November 12, 1986) the judge struck out the defence of fair comment and the question arose as to what really remained by way of defence in the action.

The defendants asserted that the first article if defamatory at all, was defamatory as a wider defamatory meaning.

The "lesser" meaning was that the discreditable conduct of which the plaintiff was guilty was not anything as serious or extreme as bribery, but rather that he should be regarded as having made the relevant payments with the lesser improper motive of seeking to influence Mr Kinnock to recommend him for a post.

The wider defamatory meaning which the defendants contended the words were capable of bearing was that the plaintiff had an ambition to be a peer and was improperly seeking to achieve that by patronage of the Labour Party and by the self-publicity which he created through his control of the Mirror Group.

The defendants sought to justify this wider meaning by reference to that which was not in dispute, namely the fact that the plaintiff had made available to the Labour Party, funds under his control by way of cash donations and financial support for particular projects and purposes.

The judge held that it was not open to the defendants to allege as part of the wider meaning of the article anything about self-publicity or the plaintiff's control of the Mirror Group as there was little or no reference to them in the article.

If the defendants were to succeed in the appeal they had to make good the contention by reference to both articles read together that the wider meaning was one which a reasonable jury could give the words after being properly directed that it was a meaning they could properly bear.

The tortious act was done with guilty knowledge for the motive of the chance of economic advantage outweighed the chances of economic or physical penalty.

The judge had decided that there was sufficient evidence of recklessness to be left to the jury. The judge held that when on July 24, 1985 the plaintiffs attempted and failed to get injunctive relief a large number of copies had been sold and others were unrecoverable, but a substantial number could have been prevented from distribution.

At that stage the only step taken by the defendants to ensure the truth of the article was apparently to ask the source, whom they had declined to name in the present proceedings, whether he was maintaining his story and prepared to give evidence in support of it.

It would be for the jury to decide whether that amounted to a sufficient taking of the obvious steps which were then necessary.

The defendants had contended that when the issue of injunctive relief was heard by the court, publication was already complete and that exemplary damages could only be awarded if the plaintiff proved that a defendant had guilty knowledge when he made the publication.

However, it could not be said that as a matter of law a defendant who had published part of an issue of a magazine and was not proved to have made that publication with the guilty mind required for proof of a right to exemplary damages could only be awarded a finding of liability to pay exemplary damages with reference to further publications in the same issue with reference to which there was evidence of that guilty mind.

Lord Justice Nourse agreed. Solicitors: Wright Webb Street; Nicholson, Graham & Jones.

No duty on council to provide speech therapy for child

Regina v Oxfordshire Education Authority, Ex parte W. Before Lord Justice May and Mr Justice McCowan

[Judgment November 21]

It was not irrational of a local education authority to have concluded that the provision of speech therapy for a boy aged nine, in order to benefit fully from his education, was "non-educational provision" and not "special educational provision" and that it was therefore not under a duty under section 7(2) of the Education Act 1981 to provide such therapy for the child.

Furthermore, the authority had no power or discretion to make a grant to pay for such therapy.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held, dismissing an application by a boy aged nine, by his mother and next friend, for judicial review by way of declarations (i) that the Oxfordshire Education Authority's decision that the speech therapy which he sought was non-educational provision was irrational, and (ii) alternatively, that if the authority had been entitled to decide that speech therapy was not special educational provision, it had failed to consider whether it had power to make a grant for private speech therapy and, if it had such a power, whether it should exercise it.

Mr John Friel for the applicant; Miss Elizabeth Appleby, QC and Mr John Steel for the authority; Mr John Laws for the Secretary of State for Education and Science and the Secretary of State for Social Services.

LORD JUSTICE MAY said that, although it was clear that the applicant needed five sessions of speech therapy a week in order to benefit from his education, in view of the fact that the speech therapy service had been transferred in 1974 to the National Health Service, and Parliament had to be taken to have enacted the 1981 Act with that knowledge, and of the fact that a joint departmental circular had stated that speech therapy was non-educational provision, it was impossible to say that the authority's decision that speech therapy for the applicant was non-educational provision was irrational.

The authority's power under section 81 of the Education Act 1944 and regulation 4(a) of the Scholarships and Other Benefits Regulations (1977 SI No 1443) to make grants to enable a child to take part in school activities did not empower the authority to pay for speech therapy for a particular child.

He was able to participate; the fact that he would be able to participate more effectively if he had more speech therapy did not bring the provision of such therapy within that power.

Likewise the apparently very wide power under section 11(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, under which a local authority could, for example, make grants for the building of a new school laboratory or a gymnasium, did not empower it to pay for speech therapy for a particular child.

Mr Justice McCowan agreed. Solicitors: Teacher Stern Selby; Mr P. J. Floyd, Oxford; Treasury Solicitor.

Ownership of taxi licence plate

Challoner v Evans Before Lord Justice Croom-Johnson and Mr Justice Peter Pain

[Judgment November 13]

Although a vehicle with a hackney carriage licence had an enhanced value it was not possible for the proprietor of a licensed hackney carriage to sell the vehicle but retain ownership of the licence plate.

Consequently an offence was committed under section 40 of the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 when the defendant stated in a requisition signed by him for the purpose of renewing the licence, that he was the proprietor of a hackney carriage he had sold without the plate.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held, allowing an appeal by the prosecutor, Arthur Challoner against a dis-

missal by Crawley Justices of an information preferred against the defendant, David Leslie Evans.

Mr Robin Campbell for the prosecutor; Mr Geoffrey Grigson for the defendant.

LORD JUSTICE CROOM-JOHNSON said that the characteristic of a hackney carriage was that it had to bear a plate attached to it in a particular exposed position, carrying the number in which the carriage was licensed.

The plate was issued by the district council under section 95 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976. Therefore at all material times the plate remained the property of the district council and there was no guarantee that it would be renewed.

It was clear that for the time being the possession of a licence had money value of a sort because it carried the expectation of getting the licence renewed when it expired and of entering the vehicle to trade.

There had grown up a practice which converted that value from the possession of a licence into a market of substantial value and money changed hands for the plate.

However, the justices erred in finding that proprietorship of the licence plate remained with the defendant after he had sold the vehicle, and charged his buyer a "rent" of £30 a week for the continued use of the plate.

Mr Justice Peter Pain delivered a concurring judgment. Solicitors: Mr M. J. Kemp, Crawley; Burrows, Horsham.

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Available interest divisions an

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RACING

Triptych to fly the European flag in Tokyo showpiece

Triptych, not the best but by far the toughest top-class performer in Europe this season...

Zealand-bred, who won the official trial, the nine-furlong Fuji Stakes, at Tokyo two weeks ago.

Triptych was never going well enough on the Santa Anita dirt to play a part in the Breeders' Cup Classic...

JAPAN CUP FIELDS

Table with 3 columns: Race Name, Horses, and Odds. Includes 6.20 JAPAN CUP (Grade 1) and 3.30 JAPAN CUP (Grade 2).

Bartres well treated

In his younger days as a hurdler, Bartres was an especially well individual but schooling over fences sobered him up...

RACING RESULTS

Table with 3 columns: Race Name, Horses, and Odds. Includes Newbury, Nottingham, and Ayr results.

FOOTBALL: EXPERIENCED LEADERSHIP THE KEY TO SURPRISE LEADERS OF THE FIRST AND SECOND DIVISIONS

Arsenal in a rush to exploit the vacuum at Liverpool

By Clive White

Arsenal have their eyes on Ian Rush. But before Arsenal supporters start reaching for the champagne I should add that not even the Highbury coffers amount to that much...

The new League leaders, in common with not a few other interested parties, cannot even contemplate the idea of assuming the champions' mantle until Rush takes an extended leave in Italy.

It is then that the likes of Arsenal's young pretenders will lay claim to their title. David O'Leary, who at 28 is still old enough to be an uncle to at least half the Arsenal team...



O'Leary: past disappointments provide present impetus

Eight victories in the last 10 under-21 games has relieved the pressure on Graham to find that rare individual. But his refusal to part with £1m for one player has meant that his dream of discovering someone in the lower divisions may have to become a reality.

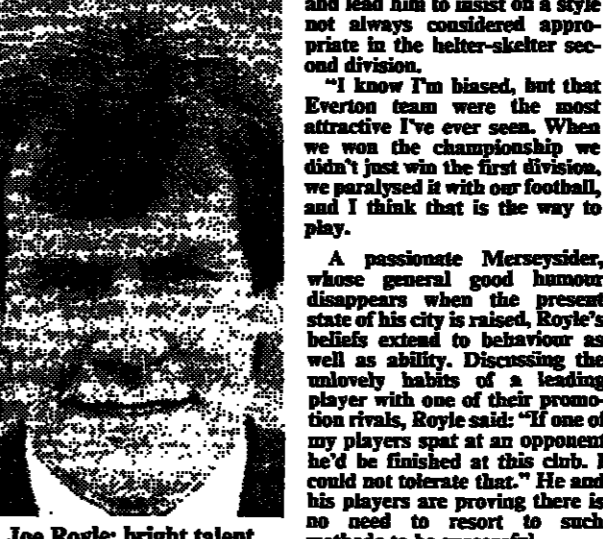
Shoe-string Royle moves upwards with stylish touch

By Peter Ball

With his clean-cut, youthful looks and smart blue striped suit, Joe Royle looked more like the archetypal young, upwardly mobile executive than anyone's idea of a football manager.

Leading the second division in November is of course no guarantee of success, as O'Leary discovered a year ago, when Oldham embarked upon a sequence of taking only one point from 10 games...

At the same time he has known throughout his stay at the club that Oldham have to sell a player a year to survive. His ability in that area has been consummate, with transfers bringing in £1.3 million during his four years in charge.



Joe Royle: bright talent

WEEKEND TEAM NEWS

Arsenal (1) v Man City (19) Spang (injury) and Mordham (goal). Arsenal will have a virus...

Wise will be the replacement. With Preece still unwell with a virus Forest will be unchanged.

Power debate The Chelsea chairman, Ken Bates, will join the Everton president, Philip Carter, and the Oldham chairman, Ian Stott...

A national network is created

Britain are to set up a network of national centres to co-ordinate information on the latest developments in sports coaching.

Criticism on every front for Baddeley

Steve Baddeley returned to the scene of his Commonwealth Games gold medal triumph in the Meadowbank Stadium yesterday...

Tonbridge pair in last four

The young Tonbridge first pair, Jonathan Spurling and Rupert Owen-Brown, reached the quarter-finals of the Noel Bruce Cup in spectacular fashion...

The statistics that are crucial to the future

Salmon rests in Scotland are likely to go up again for the coming season, though not more than about three to five per cent.

Swede advances

Berg, Jan Gunnarsson, of Sweden, beat Peter Manning of West Germany, 6-3, 6-4 in the second round of the \$50,000 Bergen Open tennis tournament...

For the Record

Table with 3 columns: Sport, Event, and Result. Includes Badminton, Football, and Squash Rackets results.

CRICKET: BATTING FAILURES SHOULD NOT CAUSE SERIOUS CONCERN

England suffer on a awkward pitch

From John Woodcock Cricket Correspondent Newcastle, New South Wales

It would be unwise to make too much of the fact that England lost their first eight wickets for only 106 runs against New South Wales here yesterday. They found a slow and awkward pitch (not to be mistaken for a sticky one), and were up against as good an attack as Australia's in Brisbane or the one they are likely to field in the second Test in Perth in six days time.



End of a 14-run innings, which took 50 minutes, as the England all-rounder, Botham, is caught by Taylor

ing something more congenial for batting. Such is the itinerary that, outside the Tests, there remain after this only two first-class matches before the tour ends in mid-February. For anyone not in the first side there is going to be an awful lot of hanging around, unless a decision is taken to vary the one-day team.

Even Botham spent 50 minutes making 14 yesterday. Broad made a conscientious being leg-breaker, the stroke. Slack got his head down for 65 minutes before hitting across the line of a full length ball. Athey was leg-before when applying himself fully and Gower was caught in the covers when barely applying himself at all.

Whitaker must have left wishing he had put the bat more firmly to the ball after giving a return catch off one that came very slowly from the pitch: Botham left convinced that the low slip catch to which he was given out, off a Holland leg break, had not carried to the fielder. Embury survived as long as he played his paddle shot; upon deserting it for the forward prop he was caught at silly point off bat and pad.

At 106 for eight after 53 overs, England's display had had nothing much to recommend it. But Foster followed his 74 not out against Queensland in his only previous first-class match with a sensible, hard-hitting 25. Small had fun driving and hooking Lawson

and Whitney, and French, with an admirable 38 not out, should have improved his chances of getting his Test place back.

When he first played against an England touring side, 21 years ago, Holland's six overs cost him 58 runs. He experienced the what many bowlers already knew, that Mike Smith with his eye in (he made 164) could seem almost impossible to bowl too. Yesterday Holland conceded one run fewer in 21 more overs, his leg rollers seldom straying from the good length spot.

For the moment, though, the Australian selector in attendance was probably more interested in Lawson, who had a tidy opening spell without looking quite the bowler he

was. The left-armed, Whitney, bowled usefully off a very long run. Whitney headed the first-class bowling averages here last year and will be remembered for having been called into the Australian team for the last two Tests in England in 1981 when he was having a season playing for Gloucestershire's second XI.

But by England's nine, 10 and jack, the New South Wales bowlers were mostly treated with courtesy. When Foster, French and Smith were in, runs came at nearly three an over; the day's other 75 overs, when the batsmen were batting, yielded only 121 runs.

Frances Edmonds Sports-Diary, page 20

Miandad averts potential disaster for Pakistan

From Richard Streeton, Karachi

Two late wickets taken by West Indies threatened the balance in the third Test match here yesterday after a day which mostly went Pakistan's way. It also brought the first controversy for the Indian umpires officiating in this series, as Marshall, the player involved. Contrasting batting by Javed Miandad and Ramiz Raja seemed to have kept Pakistan on the right path as they set out to try and build a first-innings lead.

Dusk was beginning to fall and the evening onslaught from local mosquitoes had started, as West Indies suddenly made their breakthrough. Miandad, late being rash, put on 111 for the third wicket with Ramiz Raja. Miandad was out when Ganes flattened the stumps with an accurate throw from cover as the Pakistani attempted a quick single. He had hit five fours and a six. Shortly afterwards, the crucial wicket of Imran Khan, leg-before for one, was snatched up by the off spinner, Clyde Butts, for his first Test wicket.

Ramiz, curbing his basic inclinations, remained to the close when he was 42 not out after four hours unremitting concentration. Pakistan, finished at 157 for four wickets in reply to the West Indies' 240. With the pitch still mostly playable, the match remains nicely poised, though Pakistan must secure the lead they seek if they are to win. Marshall, during the morning, had clearly disagreed with Mr. Marshall's rejection of the leg before appeals against the Pakistan opening batsmen. In the early evening, he openly argued when he was no-balled by the same umpire.

As Marshall and the umpire talked, Richards, the West Indies captain, ran from slip to join in and the other umpire, Mr. Ramaswamy, also took part in the discussions which held up the game for seven minutes. When play resumed, Miandad ran out from the first ball bowled and some of the tension evaporated.

After play ended, Mr. Reporter said he had complained to Jackie Hendriks, the West Indies manager, about what had happened. He criticized Mar-

shall's attitude both before lunch and later when he was no-balled and said he was also dissatisfied with Richards's reluctance to warn Marshall about his behaviour.

Mr. Hendriks had said he would speak to the players and promised there would be no repetition of such behaviour. Pakistan took the first trick when Imran and Abdul Qadir captured the last three West Indies wickets in the opening 40

minutes, with only another 28 runs added.

Pakistan made their customary poor start when Marshall, in his fifth over, had Mohsin Khan held at first slip. Mohsin said what seemed an unnecessary attempt at an upper cut as a ball soared over his head.

In this series Pakistan's first-wicket stands have now brought 12, 2, 0, 3 and 19 and once again they still had not reached 30 when the second wicket fell. Miandad's brilliant play, forward at a ball on his leg but it moved away and clipped his middle and off stumps. Miandad had only scored a single when he edged another brute of a ball from Gray, low but catchable, past Richards at first slip.

Guyanaese. Miandad had his measure, though.

WEST INDIES First Innings
Maddur 27
C G Greenidge c Salim Yusuf b 27
R B Richardson c Ash b Salim Yusuf 3
H A Gomes lbw b Qadir 18
Sampson c Salim Yusuf b Qadir 18
J P Dugan c Salim Yusuf b Qadir 18
R A Harper lbw b Imran 9
A J Hirst c Salim Yusuf b Qadir 9
C G Butler b Qadir 7
A H Gray c Imran b Qadir 6
C G Butler not out 5
Extras (b 14, lb 11, nb 3, w 1) 29
Total (4 wickets) 240

PAKISTAN First Innings
Maddur Nazir b Gray 15
Mohsin Khan c Richards b Marshall 17
Javed Miandad run out 76
Imran Khan lbw b Butts 1
Imran Khan lbw b Butts 1
Extras (b 14, lb 11, nb 3, w 1) 29
Total (4 wickets) 240

WEEKEND FOOTBALL AND OTHER FIXTURES

First division

- Manchester United v Liverpool
- Manchester City v Arsenal
- Sheff Wed v Luton
- Sheff Wed v Luton
- Sheff Wed v Luton

Second division

- Brighton v Blackburn
- Derby v Sheff Wed
- Huddersfield v Plymouth
- Hull v Bradford
- Ipswich v Barnsley

Third division

- Bournemouth v Chesterfield
- Brentford v Blackpool
- Bristol City v Rotherham
- Hull v Swindon
- Carlisle v Fulham

Fourth division

- Aldershot v Rochdale
- Burnley v Lincoln
- Cambridge v Peterborough
- Cheltenham v Exeter
- Preston v Southend

GM-Vauxhall Conference

- Bath v Kettering
- Bath v Kettering
- Bath v Kettering
- Bath v Kettering
- Bath v Kettering

Scottish premier division

- Aberdeen v Rangers
- Celtic v Falkirk
- Clydebank v Motherwell
- Dundee Utd v Hibernian
- Hamilton v St Mirren

Scottish first division

- Airdrie v Dunfermline
- Brechin v Partick
- Clyde v Kilmarnock
- Dumfries v Raith Rovers
- Forfar v Forfar

Scottish second division

- Ayr v Ayr
- East Fife v Berwick
- Rath v Meadowbank
- Stirling Albion v Albion
- Stirling Albion v Albion

Scottish premier division

- Aberdeen v Rangers
- Celtic v Falkirk
- Clydebank v Motherwell
- Dundee Utd v Hibernian
- Hamilton v St Mirren

FA Trophy: Third qualifying rounds

- Manchester United v Liverpool
- Manchester City v Arsenal
- Sheff Wed v Luton
- Sheff Wed v Luton
- Sheff Wed v Luton

Football Combination

- Portsmouth v Reading
- Reading v Portsmouth
- Reading v Portsmouth
- Reading v Portsmouth
- Reading v Portsmouth

English League

- Reading v Portsmouth
- Reading v Portsmouth
- Reading v Portsmouth
- Reading v Portsmouth
- Reading v Portsmouth

Rugby Union

- Thornhill v Gloucestershire
- Buckinghamshire v Bucks
- Northampton v Exeter
- Gloucestershire v Gloucestershire
- Gloucestershire v Gloucestershire

Rugby League

- Widnes v Wigan
- Widnes v Wigan
- Widnes v Wigan
- Widnes v Wigan
- Widnes v Wigan

Womens County Championship

- Reading v Portsmouth
- Reading v Portsmouth
- Reading v Portsmouth
- Reading v Portsmouth
- Reading v Portsmouth

Womens League

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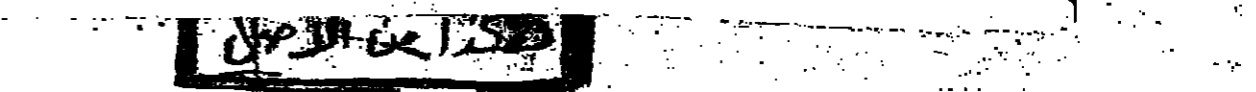
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SATU

SPORT

Quick-fire Tyson set to usher in boxing's new era

From Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent, Las Vegas

In the crowded lobby of the Hilton, the publicity video for the Trevor Berbick-Mike Tyson world title bout runs on day and night. Gamblers do not notice the flickerings on the screen, but boxing fans watch mesmerized as Tyson knocks out opponents in quick succession. It is like watching that Find-the-Lady man in London's West End. You think you know how it is done. Tyson's hands are as quick.

Trevor Berbick

Born: Port Antonio, Jamaica. Age: 32. Weight: 220lb. Height: 6ft 2 1/2 in. Reach: 78 in. Chest (normal): 42 in. Chest (expanded): 44 in. Biceps: 15 in. Forearm: 13 in. Waist: 37 in. Thigh: 24 in. Calf: 16 in. Neck: 17 in. Wrist: 7 1/2 in. Fist: 13 in. Ankle: 10 in. Record: Contests 37; wins 32, losses 4, draws 1, stoppages 23.

Mike Tyson

Born: Brooklyn, New York. Age: 20. Weight: 218 lb. Height: 5ft 11 1/2 in. Reach: 71 in. Chest (normal): 43 in. Chest (expanded): 45 in. Biceps: 16 in. Forearm: 14 in. Waist: 34 in. Thigh: 27 in. Calf: 18 in. Neck: 19 1/2 in. Wrist: 8 in. Fist: 13 in. Ankle: 11 in. Record: Contests 27; wins 27, stoppages 25.

looking a bit like the "drugged" one because he was receiving medication for a "desert throat".

Because of Berbick's wounded pride the champion is expected to give a good account of himself. People are even worried he could ruin everything by winning. He has the heart and the skill to succeed. And it is unlikely he will suffer from the "Joe Louis syndrome" and freeze, as have others, through fear when Tyson fixes his small dark eyes on him. Berbick showed Larry Holmes no respect and ended that great champion's run of inside-the-distance victories.

Berwick knows Tyson will come looking for him straightaway, there being no feeling out period for the challenger, who wants to roll quickly into what D'Amato used to call "instinctive" fighting - to bring up the right uppercut then bring down the chopping left.

So long as Berbick can keep away from those shots and box he can win. Tyson has had trouble with boxers who know the ropes, men like Green and Tillis. They use their experience to last the distance. Berbick is a far better boxer than them. However, he does tend to retaliate when hurt. If he does that he could risk taking that right uppercut or the left hook, which are delivered with maximum leverage, Tyson being short for a heavy-weight and throwing his punches upwards.

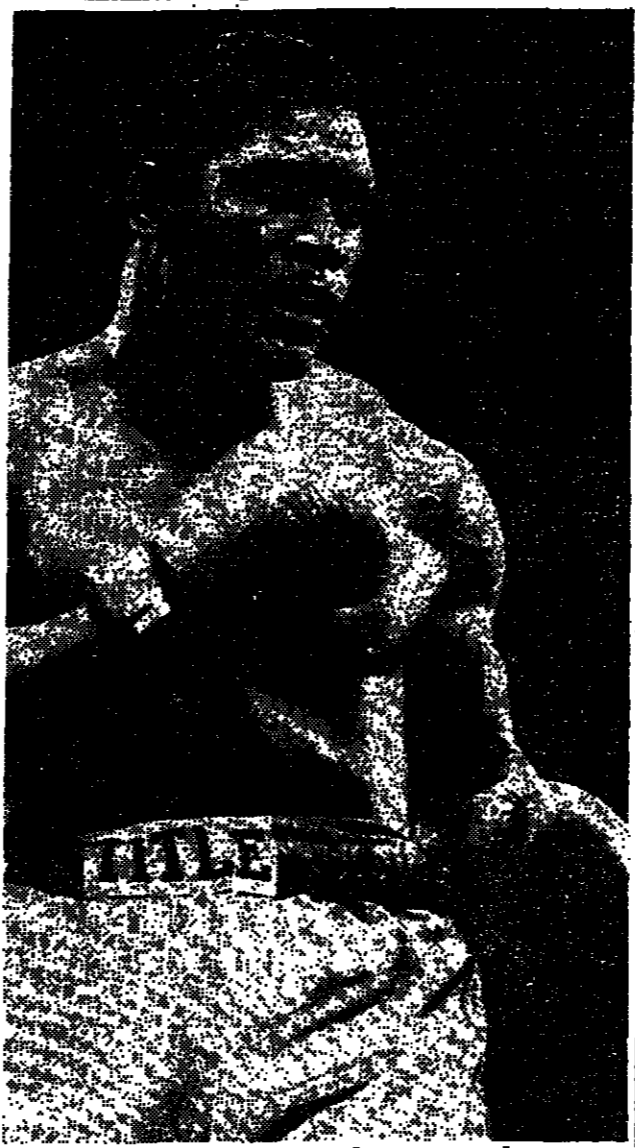
In fighting back Berbick's boxing can get loose. As he throws his punches he is wide open to the right hand coming up. But José Torres, another D'Amato champion and now chairman of the New York Athletic Commission, warns Tyson: "Berbick is very persistent and has a good jab - he beat Pinklon Thomas with it."

But Tyson's trainer, Kevin Rooney, says: "We shall go for an early knock-out, hopefully in the first round. If that doesn't happen, Mike will wear him down by the seventh."

The soft-spoken Tyson, who has never predicted a victory in his 27 other bouts, has told his friends back home in the Catskills: "He'll go in six."

As D'Amato said: "When someone like Mike believes in himself as much as he does, his actions in the ring are no longer calculated, but become intuitive. Once they are intuitive, nobody can beat him."

On this judgement day, as the fight has been labelled by the promoters, everyone will be waiting for the first big punch from either side - especially watching out for the Tyson uppercut. It is the most frightening punch I have ever seen. According to Ribalta, Tyson hits harder than Joe Frazier. One must fear for the fighting preacher.



Berwick: Preaching to the unconverted

Wembley defence for Honeyghan

Lloyd Honeyghan, the undisputed world welterweight boxing champion, is to defend his crown against the American, Johnny Bumphus, at Wembley Arena in January or February, Mike Barrett, co-promoter announced in London yesterday.

Barrett and Mickey Duff, fellow promoter, won the right to stage the 15 rounds battle with a 265,000 (£187,677) dollar purse offer. "Mickey made a dash to the IBF Headquarters in America to beat the noon deadline and we came out top," Barrett said. "The fight will be under IBF rules but for the undisputed world title."

"As for the exact date that will not be known until television arrangements have been sorted out. The fight will be shown live in America."

"Honeyghan is clearly a very hot property and it is bound to create big interest. We look to put on quality fights and there is no doubt that this is certainly going to be one of them."

Honeyghan's success in beating Don Curry to share the undisputed championship title with Marvin Hagler saw him win a best sportsman award presented by The London Standard and within a fortnight of picking up that award, he fought off fierce competition to be voted sportsman of the year by the British Sportswriters Association.

He became an overnight world sporting star when he battered the highly-rated Curry, who was previously unbeaten, into submission in six rounds at Atlantic City on September 27.

Merseyside derby is set to serve up the real thing

By Clive White

Whatever poverty the game is pleading in some of the affluent areas of the country it is still thriving in bankrupt Liverpool. Despite the presence of BBC television cameras at Goodison Park tomorrow and, dare one say, the monotony of a sixth Merseyside derby in 11 months a crowd of 48,000 is expected - a record for a televised game.

Clearly there is no substitute for the real thing - and football in Liverpool is the real thing. By Thursday 45,000 tickets had been sold for a match which for once will not figure the league leaders, though it may do by the end of the afternoon.

For the past two seasons the Evertonians have been able to compete on a level footing with the "Reds" even though they have won only once in their last six meetings. It is a reflection on the depth of the Everton challenge these days that they can consider victory over the old enemy while without four full internationals, Reid, Bracewell, Van den Hauwe and Stevens, who have been all season. Encouragingly, the first three are due to play in a reserve game next week.

Everton's ability to climb as high as seventh while weighed down by numerous other injuries, too, has earned Howard Kendall and his staff the admiration of the first division. Ken Brown, whose Norwich City side conceded four goals at home to the "depleted" Everton in midweek, said: "Howard has done really great."

"I would have thought they would miss Reid, particularly after the World Cup he had, but they have coped marvellously. They work a lot harder than possibly Everton normally do and they still have a lot of flair in people like Sheedy."

Brown is in a perfect position to evaluate the 15th derby (the law of averages is respectfully maintained at 47 wins each) since his team have suffered to the tune of 10 goals against the two Merseyside clubs in the last three weeks. In favouring Liverpool I asked

Brown in which departments they were stronger. "All of them", he replied. He said that their performance in beating Norwich 6-2 was the best he had ever seen by a Liverpool side. "And we didn't play that badly. Liverpool were out of this world. They took their goals against us whereas we gave them to Everton."

Everton, nevertheless, can again afford to overlook the claims of Watson, the former Carrow Road favourite and a Liverpoolian, who will probably find himself on the substitutes bench again tomorrow after recovering from injury. More fortunate should be Adams, the young wide midfielder whom Kendall astutely signed in the close season when he fully realised the extent of the injury problems. It will be Adams's 21st birthday tomorrow and there are no prizes for guessing his ideal present.

Kendall's chief concern remains with the opposition and in particular that man Rush, who is three goals short of equalling Dixie Dean's derby record of 19 goals. Having hit five against Everton already this season, albeit in the Screen Sport Super final, that target is not as unattainable tomorrow as one might be for a normal human. Kendall was asked recently how he intended to deal with Rush. "That's easy," he replied, "the nearest five players."

It was given the all-clear for a version which has a face of 5 1/2 inches but the other version, which has a face of 2 1/2 inches, will take him back into the American court room this winter. The USGA say that it contravenes their rule 4-1d that the club head from heel to toe must measure more than the club from front to back. The Pelz putter measures 4 7/8 inches from front to back.

"All I want to do is help people put better so that they get more enjoyment from this great game," Pelz said. "The USGA are interpreting the rule differently to how it is written. But the rules of golf are bigger than the powers of today. They didn't try to write them. It is now tried by jury and I have no doubt that I will win."

Norman is probably paid in the region of £125,000 to play Spalding clubs but that money is well spent as he will entice the club professionals to stock Spalding equipment as demand increases from members convinced that they, too, can conquer with such clubs in their hands.

Norman is probably paid in the region of £125,000 to play Spalding clubs but that money is well spent as he will entice the club professionals to stock Spalding equipment as demand increases from members convinced that they, too, can conquer with such clubs in their hands.

ing or appealing against the fine because I deserve it. I was totally in the wrong and realize I let everyone down. But I have learned my lesson and have told the boss it won't happen again."

Villa welcome back Steve Hodge this afternoon following his clash of heads with his England team colleague, Glenn Hoddle at Wembley last week which left him needing nine stitches in a cut above the eye.

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Putting putting on the right line

By Mitchell Plattis

They were all there at Sandown Park. Not that is, the likes of Peter Scudamore and Richard Dunwoody, but Jack Nicklaus, Sandy Lyle, Greg Norman, Lee Trevino, Severiano Ballesteros and Bernhard Langer, to name but a few.

For such a gathering of golf personalities to be at a track under the London News-her sky is unimaginable until one realizes that they are all six foot tall cardboard cutouts.

Greg Norman has, for instance, stood staring into space this week at the Spalding stand at the International Golf Trade exhibition organized by Intergolf Europe Limited for the British Golf Industry Association.

But Dave Pelz, of Abilene, Texas, was there and in person. He is a tall man, bursting with enthusiasm, who has attempted to revolutionize putting, that infernal game within a game, with an unorthodox implement.

Pelz, who left his job at NASA to design clubs, developed a putter which has three balls set one behind each other between its face and back. The trouble is that the United States Golf Association have claimed that one form of the Pelz putter is illegal as well as unorthodox.

It was given the all-clear for a version which has a face of 5 1/2 inches but the other version, which has a face of 2 1/2 inches, will take him back into the American court room this winter. The USGA say that it contravenes their rule 4-1d that the club head from heel to toe must measure more than the club from front to back. The Pelz putter measures 4 7/8 inches from front to back.

"All I want to do is help people put better so that they get more enjoyment from this great game," Pelz said. "The USGA are interpreting the rule differently to how it is written. But the rules of golf are bigger than the powers of today. They didn't try to write them. It is now tried by jury and I have no doubt that I will win."

Norman is probably paid in the region of £125,000 to play Spalding clubs but that money is well spent as he will entice the club professionals to stock Spalding equipment as demand increases from members convinced that they, too, can conquer with such clubs in their hands.

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Great Britain's pride at stake

By Keith Macklin

The French referee, Julien Rascagnères, could be the most important person at Central Park, Wigan, this afternoon when Great Britain and Australia meet for the third and final time in this year's series, sponsored by Whitbread Trophy.

Although Australia have already clinched the series with their two sweeping wins at Old Trafford and Elland Road, there are World Cup points at stake for both countries this afternoon, and no holds will be barred in the confrontation.

There is a possibility, always inherent at the end of a series, that some of the players may well seek to settle personal scores. Some of the more aggressive British players may wish to prove to the Australian superman that there are areas in which the British can still hold their own. If this happens, M Rascagnères could have his hands full keeping order, since there have been several flashpoints in recent club games against the Kangaroos.

Hopefully these emergencies will not arise, or will be quickly dealt with by the officials and captains, allowing the teams to play out a game which is vitally important for both teams' World Cup progress.

Great Britain's pride is at stake at Wigan this afternoon following the demoralizing thrashings in the first two internationals. The Great Britain coach, Maurice Bamford, has made several changes, some of them enforced in an almost desperate attempt to field a team capable of giving the Australians an acceptable contest.

Into the side come the Widnes loose forward Harry Pinner, his team mate at Widnes, winger John Bassett, centre David Stephenson (Wigan), who is third choice after the injured Duane and Marchant, the peppery Warrington scrum half Andy Gregory, and the powerful second row forward, Chris Burton, of Hull Kingston Rovers.

The Australians are without their second row forward, Noel Cleal, who has a broken arm, but Mal Meninga, the burly all-purpose player, steps up from substitute and so good are the tourists in all departments that Cleal is unlikely to be missed.

The Australians will certainly be going all out to make another undefeated clean sweep of international and club games. Brett Kenny, the centre three-quarter, said: "We are determined to win this one to pick up vital World Cup points. Even though we have won the series there will be no letting up in this one."

These are ominous words. After the game there could be an announcement from the Wigan club that they have agreed terms for the signature of the world's current best player, the Australian stand-off half and captain, Wally Lewis.

WORLD CUP RESULTS: New Zealand 18, Australia 0 (Pretoria); Great Britain 16, New Zealand 8 (Lansdowne); France 0, New Zealand 22 (Pretoria); France 10, Great Britain 30 (Wembley); Australia 32, New Zealand 12 (Pretoria); Papua New Guinea 24, New Zealand 22 (Port Moresby); Papua New Guinea 12, Australia 64 (Port Moresby).

GREAT BRITAIN: J Lydon (Wigan); J Bassett (Widnes); G Bassett (Preston); J Stephenson (Wigan); H Gil (Wigan); J Pinner (Widnes); A Gregory (Warrington); W Wood (Widnes); D Williams (Wigan); M R, capt, J Crooks (Hull); C Bassett (Hull); A Goodwin (Wigan); H Pinner (Wigan).

AUSTRALIA: G Jack; D Shearer; J Kenny; G Miles; M O'Connor; W Lewis; Capt, D Williams; P Dunn; M Simmons; G Lindner; G Sheppard; M Hastings; R Nelsover; J Rascagnères (France).

Extra powers to discipline rebels

By Paul Martin

The South African Rugby Board has taken new powers that, it claims, would allow it to take firm action against any provincial union that organises rebel tours without proper authority.

Details of the new regulations, which according to the Board's chairman, Dr Danie Craven, were passed without dissent at this month's annual meeting, have been sent to the International Rugby Board (IRB) in London.

At last month's acrimonious IRB meeting South Africa's delegates claimed they had been kept in the dark over Transvaal's plans for the New Zealand Cavaliers tour and had no means of controlling the actions of their provincial unions. The IRB had instructed the South Africans to put this right.

The SARB's executive now has the power to expel rather than, previously, only suspend - provincial unions who breach amateur regulations or the SA board's own constitution, though an expelled union can be reinstated after an appeal. The executive can also now recognize an alternative body to represent the expelled area's interests.

Most significantly, the executive can "take any steps against any member whose actions, in its sole opinion, are detrimental to the best interests of the Board or the game."

Exactly the same power to take steps against provincial unions harming the interests of the game already existed at the time of the Cavaliers' tour, The Times has learned. The previous rule on this point was identical except that the word "sole" has now been inserted.

According to the IRB Emergency Committee chairman, Harry McKibbin, the existence of that rule was not revealed by the South African delegates last month, who protested powerlessness. Nevertheless he described the new regulation as "a step forward - they must now surely be masters in their own house."

He added: "Now they will have no excuse for not taking full responsibility if any unauthorized tour is arranged. We cannot be fobbed off again."

Other International Board representatives urged the South Africans to use their existing powers to investigate and discipline the Transvaal Rugby Union for its role in this year's rebel tour.

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Williams' dismissal costs him £400

By Chris Moore

Billy McNeill, the Aston Villa manager, last night carried out his threat to get tough with undisciplined players by fining the club's full back, Gary Williams £400 for being sent off for the second time this season at Southampton on Tuesday.

McNeill is also understood to have issued written warnings to his captain, Allan Evans and Steve Hunt who were both booked in the Littlewoods Cup tie at The Dell, and are now just one point away from suspension.

The Villa manager was reluctant to be drawn into discussing "internal" disciplinary measures. But after fining Williams a week's wages, McNeill said: "The player is his own worst enemy. With his talents he should be knocking on the door of an international place. But he has got to learn quickly how to control his temper, though I am certain he will."

Williams, who keeps his place in an injury-hit Villa side at West Ham today, readily admitted his guilt last night. "After going ten years without being sent off it's now happened to me twice in a couple of months and I am cheating myself," said the 26 year old defender who in addition has also been booked three times this season.

"But I won't be complaining or appealing against the fine because I deserve it. I was totally in the wrong and realize I let everyone down. But I have learned my lesson and have told the boss it won't happen again."

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Cricket Delay on Boycott

By Mitchell Plattis

Derbyshire yesterday put the offer of a contract to Geoffrey Boycott "on hold" so that they could check whether their main target, Ian Botham, would be prepared to play alongside the former Yorkshire and England opener.

That was the clear indication which emerged from a two-hour meeting of Derbyshire's cricket committee through their chief executive, Roger Pearman, was briefed to issue only a short and non-committal statement.

Pearman said: "The cricket committee has discussed the general situation about the possibility of signing new players, including Geoffrey Boycott. There can be no further movement on this situation because of certain other things which have to be resolved first."

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League plans

By Mitchell Plattis

The eight venues and team managers for the new Mortgage Corporation national tennis league, starting next February, were announced yesterday. The managers have until January to submit their teams of six, from which four must be nominated to play in a particular match.

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